

- Honor Rolls Inside...
- Capt. Leonard House's Open House: Sun., Dec. 13th, 1-3 P.M.



# AGAWAM

## Advertiser·News

CAR-RT SORT\*\*\*  
Central Library  
Cooper St.  
Agawam MA 01001

50¢

Volume XXI Number 49

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

December 10, 1998



## Helping Customers For The Holidays...



"WHAT SIZE CHRISTMAS TREE WOULD YOU LIKE????": Bill Raymond of DeCaro Brothers Garden Center, 1236 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



FRAN RAHILLY, SHANNON RAHILLY, MARY STARZYK, LISA RAHILLY, and "Rusty" the dog are being helped by Bill Spear of Bill Spear's Forestry Services, South West Street, Feeding Hills.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ELEANOR NORET AND HERMIONE SMIDT with a flocked Christmas tree at Cascio Company Landscaping, 262 Meadow Street, Agawam. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ROBERT BURKO, owner of The Garden Emporium at 1265 Silver Street (Route 75), Agawam, welcomes everyone to check out his wide array of Christmas decorations. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

*After Council Receives Amended Version...*

## Used Car Ordinance Sent Back For Repairs

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

The fifth version of an ordinance regulating used car dealerships was tabled at Monday night's Town Council meeting until a third joint meeting of the council zoning, ordinance, and rules committees can be arranged as a workshop with the Mayor.

The car dealers asked for the tabling motion after learning that an amended version of the measure had been sent to the council from the Mayor's office on Monday afternoon.

In a joint letter to the council, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, Building Inspector Dominic Urbinati, and Planning Director Deborah S. Dachos strongly objected to a number of provisions in the fourth amended version of the ordinance.

Besides pointing out that the attempt to "grandfather" existing licenses by allowing them to be subject to "the rules in effect when their licenses were granted" is not permitted by state law, the town administrators objected to the deletion from the original ordinance of the requirement for site plan review for license holders seeking to amend their licenses.

Also, the town administrators objected to allowing repairs to be performed outdoors when the zoning code does not allow for outdoor repairs. They further objected to giving each license holder a written warning for a first violation, regardless of the severity of the offense, and said the council should retain right to revoke rather than merely suspend a license for a fourth violation.

### Anger And Frustration

Several councilors expressed anger and frustration at receiving the fifth amended version of the

*Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... AAN!!!*

ordinance just prior to the opening of the discussion on Monday night (when the council has been working with the dealers for months to address their concerns while protecting the town's best interests).

Council President Donald Rheault said the latest version of the ordinance changed little from the version agreed to by the dealers and the council committees last week.

"Nothing will change other than they will have to apply for a license every year. Grandfathering is not legal and we had to strike those words. If the dealers want to change something, then they will fall under the new rules for site plan review," Rheault said.

After meeting with the Mayor, Town Solicitor Thomas S. Locke, the building inspector, and the council committee chairmen on Monday afternoon, Rheault said the proposed changes are fair and that the used car dealers will be treated exactly as other businesses who are required to undergo site plan review when making changes on their properties.

"We would not want to put ourselves in the position of passing something that is not in accordance with state law," Rheault said.

Councilor Edward Caba proposed tabling the ordinance until a workshop can be set up with the Mayor, Locke, the dealers, and the councilors.

The council accepted Caba's motion in a 7-2 vote. Voting no were Councilors Robert Young and George Bitzas. Absent were Councilors Gina Letellier, due to illness, and Nancy Thompson, who was excused shortly before the vote was taken.

### LEGAL NOTICE

You are hereby notified that a public hearing will be held at Agawam Middle School, 68 Main St., in the Town of Agawam, Massachusetts, at 7:00 o'clock p.m., on Monday, December 21, 1998 upon petition of Western Mass. Electric Company dated November 30, 1998 for permission to replace pole number 3 and install anchor. This work is being done to install a new feed to T & R Wholesale, in the ways or parts of ways designated in said petition, along which

### TOWN OF AGAWAM

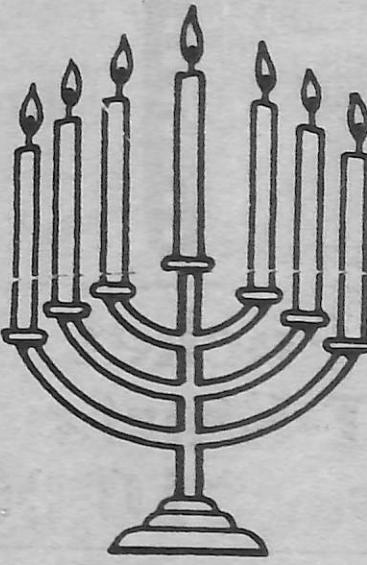
designated route of line you are an owner of real estate as determined by the last preceding assessment for taxation.

Dated this 8th day of December, 1998.

Information regarding this petition may be obtained from Western Mass. Electric Company in Springfield, Tel. No. 785-5871.

Petition Number: 1358.  
Street: Franklin Street. Ursula Retzler  
Clerk of the Council  
Published: December 10, 1998

### LEGAL NOTICE



From all of us at the Law Offices of Attorney Scott M. Hibbert, we wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

789-9800

Your  
Convenience Store  
**Without Convenience**  
Store Prices

# Goodies

## Discount Cigarette And Convenience Store

300 Springfield Street, Agawam, MA (across from CVS)

**(413) 821-0042 — Open 7 Days A Week**

All Marlboro & Basic	Cartons - \$4.50 Off	Packs - 45¢ Off
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Newport	Cartons - \$4.00 Off Packs - 40¢ Off	Misty
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Old Gold	Cartons - \$4.00 Off Packs - 40¢ Off	Private Stock Cartons - \$1.00 Off
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Eve	Cartons - \$4.00 Off	Cambridge
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Lark	Cartons - \$3.00 Off	Cartons - \$18.49 Plus Tax
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L&M	Cartons - \$3.00 Off	Winston
-----	----------------------	---------

Chesterfield	Cartons - \$1.00 Off	Camel
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Salem	Cartons - \$2.50 Off Packs - 25¢ Off
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Cartons - \$2.50 Off Packs - 25¢ Off	Cartons - \$2.50 Off Packs - 25¢ Off
---	---

Cartons - \$3.00 Off Packs - 30¢ Off	Cartons - \$3.00 Off Packs - 30¢ Off
---	---

**Cigarette  
Deals**

Doral Cartons - **Buy 8, Get 2 Free** (Select Styles Only)

Camel Menthol & Lt. Menthol - **Buy 2, Get 1 Free**

More Deals  
Coming...

Basic - **Buy 2 Packs, Get 1 Free** (Select Styles)

Parliament Lt. Box & Lt. Menthol Box - **Buy 2, Get 1 Free**

Camel Box & Lt. Box - **Buy 2, Get 1 Free**

Virginia Slims Filters, Lts., Menthol, Menthol Lts. - **Buy 2, Get 1 Free**

Camel Filter Box & Lt. Box - 85¢ Off 2 Packs



### Pioneer Dairy Milk



1% Gallon - **\$1.89**

Skim Gallon - **\$2.19**

Whole Milk Gallon, 2% Gallon - **\$2.59**

We Now Have Pioneer Dairy Egg Nog For The Holidays!!!

**Pocket  
T-Shirts  
3 For \$10.00**

Hall's Jumbo Eggs  
\$1.19 Dozen

★ *Everyday Lunch Special* ★  
2 Hot Dogs, Small Bag Of  
Chips, Can Of Soda - **\$1.99**

Come In And Check Out  
Our Great Deli Prices!

\* **Full Lottery** \*  
X-Mass Lottery  
Drawing For \$200  
Gift Certificate  
To Holyoke Mall  
Drawing 12/11/98

— COUPON —  
**Land O'Lakes**  
White American Cheese

**\$2.69 Lb.**

(Limit - 2 Lbs.  
Per Customer)

Expires 12/18/98

— COUPON —  
**Any Deli Sandwich  
On A Water Roll  
Just 99¢**

Expires 12/18/98



## Letters To The Editor

### St. David's Thanks Businesses For Donating To Auction

#### To The Editor:

On behalf of St. David's Episcopal Church and The Rev. Leonard Cowan, the Auction Committee would like to thank the following local businesses for donating to our Building Fund Benefit Auction held at the Polish American Club on November 21, 1998.

Thanks to their generosity, it was a huge success!

911 Burgers & Dogs, Abdow Corp, Agawam Bowl, Agawam Flower Shop, Agawam Opticians, Agawam Public Market, Allied Heating, Ambrogio's Bakery, Armstrong Blum Manufacturing, Ayre Real Estate, Bancroft Bridals, Belmont Laundry, Bertucci's, Bickford's Restaurant, Big Y, Bob's Discount Furniture, Borsari Oil, Boston Bruins, Boston Celtics, Boston Red Sox, Brooks Drugstore, Carmelina's On The Hill, Chapin Specialties, CHH Engraving, Chickies Corner.

Christo's Restaurant, Cincotta Farms, Cornerstone Christian Bookstore, Country Flowers & Gifts, Curran Jones, Curry Copy Center, Dave's Soda & Pet Food City, Dayga Printing, E.B.'s Restaurant, Elaine's Pet Salon, Ensign Cooper, Fini's Plants, Fleet Bank, Food Mart, Frank's Nursery & Crafts, Friendly's, Games & Lanes, Groomingdale's, Hair & Company, Healthtrax Fitness & Wellness Center, John's Trucking, JW's Steakhouse, Kinney's 1 Hour Photo, Lily of the Valley.

Lucia Lumber, Luigi's Pizza & Pasta, Mansfield Paper Co., Maxol Products, McDonald's, Michael's Hair & Nails Techniques, Milton Bradley, Morning Star, My Favorite Things, Old Sturbridge Village, Palm Court Designs, Parrotta's Auto, Parthenon Restaurant, Pizzeria Uno, Quality Auto Care, Riverside Park, Sandy's K-9 Quarters, Sarat Ford, Schlaffer Chiropractic Office, Shear Techniques, Sheraton Springfield, Showcase Cinemas, Spaghetti Warehouse, Spfld. Symphony Orchestra, Springfield Journal Newspaper.

St. Anne Country Club, Stop & Shop, Storwton Tavern, Surprise! Hallmark & Gift Shop, Take Five Restaurant, Taylor Rental, The Shed Classic Interiors, Tours of Distinction, Valenti's Restaurant, Valley Automotive, W.C. Rackliffe & Son, Walnut Street Cleaners, Westfield Bank, YMCA.

Sincerely,  
Chris Machos, Joanne Hudson  
Auction Co-Chairwomen

### Keenan's Office Has Energy Information

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to provide Citizens Energy Corporation 1998 Guide to Fuel Assistance, Healthcare Resources, and Energy Information to assist members of the community who need help meeting their most essential needs.

This brochure contains information about the State Fuel Assistance Program (and its new High Energy Pilot Program), utility rights and discounts, and oil buying groups. Also included in the brochure is a section to inform readers about healthcare resources, including the Senior Pharmacy Program, the MassHealth Program, and/or Children's Medical Security Plan.

To obtain a brochure with information to help families prepare for this winter and the new year ahead, please call Rep. Keenan's district office at (413) 786-4545.

### Agawam Police Explorers To Take Pictures With Santa

The Agawam Police Explorers will be taking pictures with Santa on Saturday and Sunday, December 12th and 13th. The cost will be \$3 per picture.

This event will be held at Boglisch and Sons Farm on Main Street in Agawam. It will be run from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on both days.

If you have any questions regarding this fundraiser, call Stephen Antaya at 786-0445.

# "A Piece Of The News"

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

### COMMISSION MAY OPT FOR SECOND CHOICE FOR SISTER CITY

Six months after inviting Frosinone, Italy, to become Agawam's sister city, the chairman of the Italian Sister City Commission is getting ready to send out an invitation to the commission's second choice, Reggio Calabria.

In a letter to the commissioners, Chairman Joseph F. Langone said he has asked Italian vice-consul Giuseppe Polimeni to move forward with contacting the mayor of Reggio Calabria if no word is received from Frosinone by the end of this month.

"Since July, we have had no word at all from Frosinone, and I think enough time passed," Langone said.

Last summer, the 21-member Italian Sister City Commission chose the town of Frosinone, located 70 miles from Rome in the Region of Lazio, as its first choice for establishing a formalized relationship of educational, social, and economic exchange.

Langone said the commission will hold its next meeting after the first of the year.

### RIVERSIDE TO PURCHASE 61 ACRES

Riverside Park will pay \$4.5 million for the 61-acre tract of land that is presently home to the A.P. Boglisch & Sons Nursery. Located across from the park on the west side of Main Street, the parcel will eventually be used for parking and support services for the park.

Last week, Boglisch Realty Company notified the town of the impending sale as required by state law (in the event the town wishes to exercise its right of first refusal on agricultural land being sold for a business use).

Under the terms of the sale, the property will be leased back to Boglisch and the nursery will continue to operate on the bulk of the parcel through December 1999. On May 15, 1999, Riverside will take possession of 15 acres adjacent to the existing parking lot, and will be allowed to improve the area for use as a parking lot.

Also, Riverside will be allowed to make improvements to the existing driveway for use as an exit from the parking area.

The land deal is set to close on January 15, 1999 or 15 days after the town waives the right of first refusal.

Last month, company officials unveiled their master plan for solving the traffic problem on Main Street and for fully developing the

amusement/water park. The plans displayed at Planning Board and at an open house for the public last month showed the Boglisch property connecting with the present unpaved parking lot on the west side of Main Street.

The plan calls for all parking and support services to be located on the west side of Main Street and the continued development of the ride park and the water park on the east side of Main Street.

### SEEKING FUNDS TO CREATE AN EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The Mayor and the Town Council president are co-sponsoring an order seeking approval from the council for funds to create an Employee Recognition Program based on years of service to the town.

"Both the Mayor and I agree this is something that is long overdue," Council President Donald Rheault said Monday night.

At their December 20th meeting, the council will consider transferring \$2,600 from the Reserve Fund for the recognition program that will involve the presentation of certificates and recognition items (such as engraved key chains, paperweights, and desk clocks) to employees with five years or more of service to the town.

The presentations will be made at a series of luncheons to be held in January at the municipal golf course. The cost of the luncheons is estimated at \$600 and the remaining \$2,000 will cover the cost of the recognition items.

Funding for the program will be included in the town's annual budget and the cost of the program will drop dramatically after the first year since the number of employees reaching milestone years — five years, 10 years, 20 years, etc. — will be significantly fewer than the 200-plus employees currently eligible for a service award.

In a joint memo to the council, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson and Rheault stated, "We believe that recognizing the dedication of our public employees in serving our community is important. We believe that the recognition is long overdue and would be beneficial in maintaining high morale and productivity in our workforce."

### REAPPOINTMENTS

Robert Watson, Jr. has been reappointed to the Agawam Housing Authority for a five-year term expiring January 2, 2004.

Golf Commissioners Julie Siciliano and Victor Carra were reappointed to three-year terms ending December 31, 2001.

### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1998 at 6:30 P.M., for all parties interested in the appeal of WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY (WMECO), who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-63, of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the construction of a South Agawam Substation New 115kV Switching Station at the premises identified as: 38 MOYLAN LANE.

Larry Hoague  
Acting Chairman

Published: December 10, 1998



## The Agawam Advertiser•News

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**Complying With EPA Deadline...****Council Okays DPW Oil Storage License**

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

With time running out on a federal mandate to overhaul their existing underground fuel tanks or take them out of service, the Department of Public Works received a license for two new above ground fuel tanks at Monday night's Town Council meeting.

DPW Superintendent John P. Stone said the new tanks will be installed above ground at the 1347 Main Street garage as a temporary measure to comply with a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency order requiring the old tanks be taken out of service by December 21st.

Installing the new tanks above ground at the Main Street garage will allow the DPW to relocate the tanks when the town builds a new public works garage as promised in the capital improvement plan.

"We didn't want to invest in underground installation for a year or two when we believe a new DPW garage is a high priority in the capital improvement plan," Stone said. "These are double-walled tanks with leak detection monitoring between the walls."

Stone said the tanks meet all local and state fire safety regulations and will be surrounded by (concrete) Jersey barriers like those used on highway construction projects to protect against vehicle accidents.

**Residents Speak In Opposition To License**

Several residents, including three abutters of the DPW garage, spoke in opposition to the fuel

storage license, citing their fear of accidents, fuel leaks, the lack of an evacuation plan, and the possibility of damage to the tanks by lightning strikes or storm debris.

Donald Willett told the council, "I am a direct abutter and I think the idea is terrible. I don't think anyone on the council would want 6,000 gallons of fuel stored in their backyard."

One of the tanks will hold 6,000 gallons of diesel fuel. The second tank will hold 3,000 gallons of gasoline. All of the vehicles owned by the town, including police, fire, and emergency vehicles, fuel up at the Main Street site. Currently, the garage stores 10,000 gallons of gas and 6,000 gallons of diesel fuel in 20 year-old underground tanks.

Stone said the new above ground tanks would be safer for the environment than the present fuel storage tanks.

Stone said the entire cost of removing and cleaning the old tanks and installing the new tanks will cost around \$180,000. Delivery of the new tanks is expected to take six to eight weeks. In the meantime, the town is advertising bids for an interim fuel supply in order to comply with the EPA deadline, Stone said.

The council approved the fuel storage license in a 9-1 vote. Councillor Dennis Perry voted against the proposal. Councillor Gina Letellier was absent due to illness.

**State Rep. Keenan's Office Has Booklet Dealing With Issues Affecting The Elderly**

All elders interested in planning for their future should contact Rep. Dan Keenan's district office to obtain a complimentary copy of "A Guide for Elders: Planning That Protects You and Your Assets."

The guide is a user friendly "how to" booklet that will give practical advice on how the legal and social services systems work in

Massachusetts. It discusses such subjects as wills, powers of attorney, health care proxy forms, nursing home considerations, and consumer complaints.

To request your copy of "A Guide for Elders: Planning That Protects You and Your Assets," contact Rep. Keenan's district office at (413) 786-4545.

**For photo coverage in The Agawam Advertiser News, contact photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053; however, please give him at least 48 hours' notice**

**FireWise...**

by Fire Chief David Pisano  
**"Babyproofing" Your Home To Prevent Accidental Fires**

The first 12 months of a baby's life is an exciting time for parents who will witness their baby's first smile, first laugh, and even its first steps. The next 12 months can be equally exciting, but also dangerous if safety isn't foremost in the parents' minds.

The Agawam Fire Department offers the following checklist to help "babyproof" your home:

1. Are matches and cigarette lighters kept out of children's reach or in a childproof container?
2. Do family members have a rule never to hold a small child while handling hot liquids, such as a cup of coffee or a pot of hot water?
3. Are hot liquids placed out of child's reach? Remember, young children will pull a tablecloth off a table.
4. Are small children not allowed to play in the kitchen? Not only could they burn themselves on a hot stove, but an adult could fall over them while removing a pan and carrying a heated substance from the stove.
5. Are electric outlet covers on all unused outlets?
6. Are electric cords in good condition and out of reach of children, especially in the teething stage?
7. Do family members know never to leave a small child unattended in the bathtub? Not only could this create a drowning problem, but a potential scald burn also.
8. Have you installed door stops and safety knobs to prevent children from opening forbidden doors? Remember to also use adaptable latches and locks for medicine cabinets and cabinets containing cleaners or other poisonous substances.
9. Additionally, consider the following:
  - Every baby should be strapped in an approved infant seat when being transported in a vehicle.
  - Children should also be strapped in when riding in a stroller.
  - Dangerous tools should be kept out of children's reach.
  - Wells, pools, and cisterns should be well-protected.
  - Plastic bags should be discarded or inaccessible to small children.
  - Firearms should be locked up, and ammunition should be locked away in a different location.
  - More than 700 varieties of household plants and flowers are poisonous when eaten. Therefore, keep plants out of children's reach.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

**Let Us Guide You**

Do you ever feel like you're fumbling around in the fog when you're trying to find the right homeowner's insurance? Let Canary-Bломstrom guide you.

We take the time to get to know you, assuring that you'll get the right coverage at the right price.



**CANARY  
Bломstrom**  
insurance agency, inc.

**"A Neighbor You Can Turn To"**

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Call for a complimentary evaluation for your insurance needs.

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## — Agawam Obituaries —

### **Erwin Stoll**

Erwin Stoll, 89, of 13 Parker Street, Agawam, died recently in Reeds Landing Nursing Center. Born in Feuerbach, Germany, he came to the United States in 1929, and lived in Springfield before moving to Agawam in 1943.

He worked for over 35 years in the Method and Machine Design Department of Stacey Machine Company in Agawam, retiring in 1974.

He leaves his wife, the former Emma Maier; a son, Franklin E. Stoll of Agawam; a daughter, Lucille P. Scott of Ludlow; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral and burial were private, and Agawam Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

### **Helen R. Watson**

Helen R. (Benson) Watson, 72, of 78 Francis Street, Springfield, died recently at home.

She was a secretary for the 104th Tactical Fighter Group of the Massachusetts Air National Guard at Barnes Airport in Westfield for 23 years. She retired in 1992.

Born in Humboldt, Kansas, she graduated from Humboldt High School.

She lived in Springfield from 1963 and was a member of the Bethany Assembly of God in Agawam.

She leaves her husband of 49 years, Robert C. Watson; a son, Mark C. of Agawam; a daughter, Ruth E. Iannazzo of North Andover; two brothers, Albert M. Benson of Chanute, Kansas, and William E. Benson of Climax Springs, Missouri; two sisters, Dorothy Sadler of Owasso, Oklahoma, and Marjorie Rhyne of Rochester, Minnesota; and two grandchildren.

The funeral was held in the church, with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, Springfield. Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Bethany Missions Fund, in care of Bethany Assembly of God Church, 580 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

### **Lucille Gosse**

Lucille (Crouss) Gosse, 91, of 156 School Street, Agawam, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in Springfield, she was a lifelong resident of Agawam.

She was a graduate of Agawam High School. She was a long-time member of the Congregational Church, where she was a choir member since the age of 15 and a soloist.

She was the leader of Ladies Aid Society Group 3 and a member of the Agawam Women's Club, the Agawam Garden Club, and the Audubon Society.

Her husband, Wendell M. Gosse, died in 1974, and a son, Wendell M. Jr., died in 1962.

She leaves a daughter, Marilyn Gabel of

Agawam; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at the Congregational Church, with burial in the Center Cemetery. Agawam Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association, 393 Maple Street, Springfield, MA 01105, or the Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

### **Joanne M. Connor**

Joanne M. Connor, 51, of 35 Faymore Drive, Agawam, died recently at home.

She worked in the administration department at the U.S. Postal Service on Main Street, Springfield, for 12 years. She worked previously for Pension Associates in Springfield for 20 years.

Born in Springfield, she was a lifelong resident of Agawam.

She was a graduate of Agawam High School and Bay Path Junior College, and a member of St. John the Evangelist Church.

She leaves a son, Travis of Agawam; a daughter, Kristen Laudato of Agawam; her mother, Anna (Meccia) Natale of Agawam; two brothers, Frank and Anthony Verteramo, both of Agawam; and her companion, Michael J. DeStefano of Newton.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and the church, with burial in Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Brigham and Women's Hospital (attention of Leslie Kolterman, Development Office), 16 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02116-5712.

### **Anthony A. Silvestrini**

Anthony A. Silvestrini, 78, of 242 Maple Street, Agawam, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was the owner of the former AA Auto Body Co. in West Springfield for 45 years. He worked most recently at the Eastern States Exposition.

Born in Mondolfo, Italy, he lived in West Springfield before moving to Agawam in 1947.

He was an Army veteran of World War II, a licensed pilot, and a former communicant of St. Anthony Church. He was a member of UNICO, the Dante Club, and the Deadline Gang in West Springfield.

His wife of 50 years, the former Pierina T. Sgueglia, died in 1992, and a son, Anthony, in 1945.

He leaves another son, James A. of Guilford, Connecticut; two daughters, Carol A. Fox of Longmeadow and Mary Ann Coughlin of West Springfield; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Exposition Area Alumnus Scholarship Fund, Inc., P.O. Box 124, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Poinsettias, Wreaths, Candlelight Centerpieces, Boxwood Trees, Cemetery Logs, Fruit Baskets, Christmas Basket Bouquets, And All Your Christmas Floral Decorating Needs!

### **When You THINK FLOWERS, Think AGAWAM FLOWER SHOP!**

430 Main Street, Agawam

**786-7427**

**Daily Deliveries!**

*The elves at Agawam Flower Shop are working hard making special floral gifts for everyone you know! Stop by today and let them make special deliveries for you!*

**CHINA STAR 星**

Specializing in Chinese Food to Take-Out

382 Main Street  
Agawam, MA.

**789-7170 • 789-7196**

**Buy Any Two Lunch Or Dinner Combos, Get 3rd Combo For**

**99¢**

**No Quantity Limit**

**Expires 12/16/98 (With This Coupon)**

### **Dorothy M. Lambert**

Dorothy M. (Grindle) Lambert, 80, of Agawam and formerly of East Longmeadow, died recently in a local nursing home.

She was born in Springfield.

Her husband, Raymond J. Lambert, Sr., died in 1975.

She leaves four sons, Raymond Jr. of Duxbury, Richard and Edward, both of Cape Cod, and Robert; a sister, Alma Ravigala of Hagerstown, Maryland; 15 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Blessed Sacrament Church in Holyoke, with burial in Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Springfield. Hafey Springfield Chapels was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Springfield Boys Club, 481 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

### **Albert W. Thompson**

Albert W. Thompson, 38, of 55 Spring Street, Agawam, died recently at home.

He worked for area landscaping companies for many years.

He was born in Holyoke and spent most of his life in Agawam.

He was an Army veteran.

He leaves a daughter, Jessica Condino of Springfield; a brother, Charles J. Jr. of Westbrook, Connecticut; three sisters, Marion Austin of Cape Nedick, Maine, Cheryl Scott of White Haven, Pennsylvania, and Deborah Scott of Old Saybrook, Connecticut.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery, both in West Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Firefighters Ambulance Fund, P.O. Box 123, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

### **Eva T. Boussy**

Eva T. "Peg" (Rote) Boussy, 93, of Hastings Street, Feeding Hills, died recently at a local nursing home.

She worked for many years at the former Wico Electric Co. of West Springfield.

Born and schooled in Albany, New York, she moved to this area in 1945.

Her husband, Edgar C. Boussy, died in 1988. She leaves a niece and two grandnieces.

A private graveside service was held at the family's convenience in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, and Sampson's Family Chapels of Springfield was in charge of the arrangements.

**SEE OBITUARIES - Page 7...**

## **Fran's Restaurant**

**Eat In**



**Take Out**

**Happy Holidays!**

To All Of  
Our Customers

Closed  
Christmas Day  
& New Year's Day

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**Edward J. Farrell**

Edward J. Farrell, 88, of 142 Glendale Road, Agawam, and formerly of 170 Hopkins Place, Longmeadow, a Springfield lawyer, court clerk, and legal instructor, died recently in Springfield's Mercy Hospital.

He was an attorney and a general partner at Spooner-Wright, Farrell & Ryan in Springfield for 19 years. He retired in 1994.

Born in Montague City, he lived in Longmeadow for 41 years before moving to Indialantic, Florida, and Agawam. He attended Northampton High School, where he captained the football team and was class president.

He graduated from New York University and coached football at the Lord Buckley Preparatory School in New York City. He graduated from Fordham Law School with a juris doctorate.

He was a communicant of St. Mary's Church in Longmeadow. He was a major in the Army Air Forces during World War II.

He was a clerk of the Springfield Superior Court for more than 20 years and a member and past president of the Hampden County Bar Association from 1964 to 1966. He was a member of Elks Lodge 61 and a past commander of the Alfred L. Wood American Legion Post in Longmeadow.

He was the author and instructor of "Lawyers Trial Practice Course" and a professor of law in the Western New England College night division.

He leaves his wife, the former Barbara E. Exner; six sons, John and Richard of Indialantic, Edward Jr. of Madison, Connecticut, Robert of Longmeadow, Paul of West Springfield, and Mark of Groton; a daughter, Barbara L. Fitzpatrick of Agawam; and 14 grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Hafey East Longmeadow Chapels and the church, with burial in Longmeadow Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Catholic Charities Pastoral Center, 65 Elliott Street, P.O. Box 1730, Springfield, MA 01101.

**Ralph W. Emerson, Jr.**

Ralph W. "Jackpot" Emerson, Jr., 78, of Agawam, died recently in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was a civil engineer for Strathmore Paper Co. and Westfield River Paper Co. He also was the town engineer for Largo, Florida. During retirement, he was a partner in the Emerson Watch and Repair Store in Westfield.

Born in Westfield, he was a long-time area resident. He lived in Largo before recently moving to Agawam.

He was a graduate of Westfield High School and received a degree from the Tri-State Engineering College in Angola, Indiana.

A World War II veteran, he was a first lieutenant-navigator in the Army Air Forces. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross for flying 25 combat missions.

His wife, the former Martha Richardson, died in January.

He leaves two sons, Ralph W. 3rd of Granville and Mark S. of Jacksonville, Florida; two daughters, Sandra Montagna of Westfield and Donna Roberts of Feeding Hills; four brothers, Whitney of Pryor, Oklahoma, Lester and Vernon, both of Burlington, Vermont, and Donald of Gastonia, South Carolina; two sisters, Mabel Johnson of Southwick and Margaret Ehly of Lenox; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

The memorial service will be held on the morning of Monday, December 21st, at the Granville Federated Church, with a private burial. There are no calling hours, and Southwick-Forastiere Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Granville Federated Church, P.O. Box 246, Granville, MA 01034, or the American Lung Association, 393 Maple Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

**Robert R. Chapdelaine**

Robert R. Chapdelaine, 66, of 150 Beekman Drive, Agawam, died recently at Cheshire Medical Center in Keene, New Hampshire.

He was one of the owners of Joseph Chapdelaine & Sons Inc. of East Longmeadow for 40 years and ran the kitchen division.

Born in Springfield, he was a 33-year Longmeadow resident before moving to Agawam 10 years ago.

He was a 1958 graduate of St. Michael's College in Winooski, Vermont, and a communicant of St. Mary's Church in Longmeadow.

He belonged to the East Longmeadow Rotary Club and served as a director of the Home Builders Association.

He leaves four daughters, Ann Chapdelaine of Agawam, Sandra Taloumis of Chicopee, Lisa Chapdelaine of Springfield, and Rachel Chapdelaine of Boulder, Colorado; three brothers, Roland, Gerard, and Roger, all of East Longmeadow; three sisters, Lucille Chapdelaine of Springfield, Yvette Archambault of Belchertown, and Therese Bonacquisti of West Springfield; and five grandchildren.

**Harry Silverman**

Harry Silverman, 81, of 16D Mansion Woods Drive, Agawam, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was the owner of the former Springfield Nash Motor Sales and the former City Motors of Springfield. He owned the firms from 1946 until

**SEE OBITUARIES - Page 8...**

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## Donations For Soldiers



**AT THE CAPTAIN LEONARD HOUSE,** members of the Agawam Women's Club — Faith Freeman, Nancy Smith, and Phyllis Damon — recently showed just some of the items that club members have donated for the residents of the Soldiers' Home this Christmas. *Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.*

### OBITUARIES - from Page 7...

his retirement in 1980. He also worked in real estate development and advertising.

Born in Boston, he lived in Springfield, Longmeadow, and Agawam from 1946.

He served in the Army Intelligence Corps in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

He was a member of Beth El Temple and a charter member of the Springfield Jewish Community Center and the Crestview Country Club.

He also was a Mason and Shriner.

His wife of 56 years, Evelyn (Cohen) Silverman, died in 1993.

He leaves two daughters, Lois Grant of Longmeadow and Eileen Vail of Stamford, Connecticut; two sisters, Marian Gordon of Virginia Beach, Virginia, and Tillie Danberg of Margate, Florida; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Harold R. Ascher & Son Memorial Chapel in Springfield, and a memorial observance was held at the home of Lois Grant.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Springfield Jewish Community Center, 1160 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA 01108.

### Robert A. Messier

Robert A. Messier, 70, of Agawam, an Army veteran of the Korean War, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born and schooled in Springfield, he lived in Agawam for 45 years.

He worked at Package Machinery Co. of East Longmeadow for several years. He also was an auctioneer for Amherst Auction Galleries for 20 years and retired in 1990.

He was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church and was active for many years with the Agawam Auxiliary Police.

He leaves his wife, the former Rosemary Burns; two sons, Robert A. of Agawam and Michael B. of Fremont, California; three daughters, Jeanne Ryder of Feeding Hills, Marie R. Johnson of Newburgh, New York, and Sue E. Voorvaart of Windsor Locks; a brother, Richard Messier of Springfield; and seven grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam and the church, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery in Feeding Hills.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospital (attention of donations), 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

## Embargo Lifted On MCAS...

# No Surprises For School Department In State Test Scores

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

School officials report no surprises in the scores Agawam students received in the first Annual Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) testing of students in grades four, eight, and 10 in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science & Technology.

Yesterday, school officials released the results for Agawam students within minutes of the lifting of the embargo imposed by the State Department of Education (DOE). School districts across the state received scores last week, but were forbidden by the DOE to make the scores public until Wednesday morning in order to give school administrators time to begin analyzing results and developing plans for making improvements.

Expressed as the percentage of students performing at four levels (failing, needs improvement, proficient, and advanced), the statewide results show in grade four, the strongest performance was in science and technology; the weakest performance was in grades eight and 10 mathematics and science & technology; in grades eight and 10, the strongest performance was in English language arts; at each grade level, mathematics had the highest percentage of students at the failing level and the highest percentage of students at the advanced level.

### No Surprises

School Superintendent Frank Ameruoso said there were no surprises for school administrators in the scores achieved by Agawam students in last May's round of testing.

"What we're seeing is that the areas in which we did well, specifically science & technology and English language arts at the High School, are the areas where we've had the new curriculum in place the longest. Conversely, we did not do as well in mathematics where we've only had the curriculum in place since September," Ameruoso said. "We think it's encouraging to know that what we're doing is working. Wherever we have the curriculum in place, it reflects the better scores."

Assistant Superintendent Mary Czajkowski said the individual test scores for each student were mailed home on Tuesday and a meeting with all parents, especially the parents of the students who took the MCAS, has been scheduled at 7:00 p.m. at the Middle School to discuss the test results. In the coming days, Ms. Czajkowski will be meeting with principals, academic coordinators, elementary specialists, liaison teachers, and guidance counselors to begin analyzing the test results.

"I'm encouraging parents to meet with teachers and guidance counselors in the areas where their student has any problems," Ms. Czajkowski said.

In Agawam, fourth graders were on a par with the statewide results in English, with 18 percent falling in the top two levels of proficient and advanced. Fewer students - seven percent - scored in the failing range than the state average (15 percent), and 75 percent fell into the needs improvement category. Fourth graders were below the state average (67 percent) in math, with 75 percent failing or needing improvement and 25 percent rated proficient or advanced as compared to 34 percent statewide.

### Above State Average In Science

In science & technology, fourth graders here were well above the state average (48 percent) with 57 percent of Agawam students in the top two levels. Statewide, 52 percent of fourth graders were failing or needing improvement; in Agawam, the score was 43 percent in the lower levels.

Results for the individual elementary schools show Robinson Park School consistently having the fewest percentage of students scoring in the failing or needs improvement range in all three subject areas. James Clark School scored lowest

in English language arts with 94 percent of students in the failing or needs improvement range.

In math, Benjamin Phelps School had the highest percentage (88 percent) of fourth graders in the failing or needs improvement range.

In science & technology, Clifford Granger School scored the lowest with 49 percent of students scoring in the two lower performance levels.

"We don't know why Robinson fared the best consistently," Ameruoso said. "That's one of the things we'll be looking at."

### Eighth-Grade English Above State Average

Results for the eighth graders in English language arts were above the state average (57 percent) with 61 percent of the students scoring in the proficient or advanced range. Statewide, 45 percent of eighth graders scored as failing or needs improvement; in Agawam, the score was 38 percent. Math scores were well below the state average (31 percent) with 23 percent scoring in the top two levels; 77 percent were failing or needs improvement compared to a state average of 66 percent.

In science & technology, Agawam students tied with their peers across the state, scoring 28 percent in the advanced or proficient rating and 72 percent in the failing or needs improvement range.

Agawam 10th graders scored 10 percentage points higher than the state average (38 percent) in English language arts with 48 percent in the proficient or advanced range. In Agawam, 52 percent scored in the two lower categories; statewide, the score was 62 percent of students failing or needs improvement.

In math, Agawam students fell below the state average (24 percent) with 17 percent of students in the proficient or advanced range and 82 percent failing or needs improvement.

In science & technology, Agawam had 27 percent of students in the proficient or advanced range. The state average was 22 percent. While 78 percent of students across the state scored failing or needs improvement, in Agawam, the score was 72 percent.

MCAS measures the performance of individual students, schools, and school districts on the academic learning standards contained in the state's curriculum frameworks as mandated by the 1993 Education Reform Act. The frameworks and the MCAS are intended to promote high standards for all students and measure the performance of all students compared to the standards.

In a statement issued last month, Commissioner of Education David P. Driscoll said, "This year's MCAS results are a baseline against which improvement in the future will be measured ... these results tell us where our students are now in reference to high standards for academic achievement, and where we need to focus our efforts and resources to help all students rise to meet those standards in the future."

### Pinpointing Strengths & Weaknesses

Ameruoso said the MCAS results are reported for each student, school, and district in a variety of sub-scores for specific topics and skills in each subject area, allowing school administrators to pinpoint the strengths and weaknesses of the curriculum and the delivery of the curriculum for fine-tuning.

"We hope to have a plan in place by January to take our results and apply them to the curriculum so that we can see which portions of the curriculum or the delivery system need to be enhanced," Ameruoso said. "I'm excited because we have been given a great instrument; with the sub-scores, we will know where to look and where to make the adjustments."

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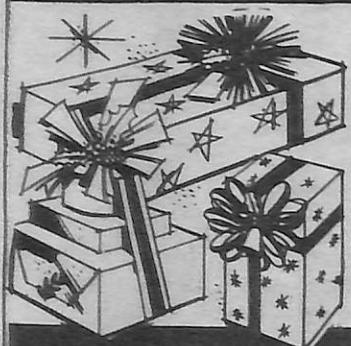
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<i>Fetzer Sundial Chardonnay (750 mL)</i>	<b>\$6.99</b>
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<i>Moet Et Chandon White Star Champagne (750 mL)</i>	<b>\$21.99</b>
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### Domestic

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## Melconian To File Bill Regarding Child Murderers

Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is proud to announce that for the 1999 legislative session she is filing a bill mandating a minimum prison sentence of 2½ years for any individual who kills a child under the age of seven.

It would apply to parents who batter their children to death or someone, such as a daycare provider, who acts with wanton or reckless disregard for a child's safety that results in death.

"The murder of a child is one of the most heinous crimes in our society," said Melconian. "Creating a minimum penalty guarantees that justice is served for the child and helps parents and family achieve some closure for their loss."

Melconian hopes that families as well as children will benefit from the bill. Often children are killed by members of their own family and this bill would protect other family members, especially other children, from the killer. The bill is part of the senator's longstanding effort, which includes the recently passed Lizzie's Law, to protect and improve the lives of children.

Under current law, first and second degree murder carry a sentence of life in prison, but manslaughter carries no minimum sentence. The murder of a child often falls into two categories of involuntary manslaughter. The first is where the individual intended to cause physical harm, but it could not be proved that he intended to commit murder.

The other is when the criminal acts with a disregard of probably harmful consequences to another that constitutes wanton or reckless conduct. The inadequacy of the current law was highlighted by the recent manslaughter conviction of Louise Woodward. She spent less than a year in jail.

"I cannot think of a situation where a child killer should not spend at least 2½ years in jail," said Melconian. "We must protect the Commonwealth's most vulnerable citizens."

\* \* \*

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## Building Dept. Makes Donation To The Police



RICK BOSINI (far right), Sealer of Weights and Measures, Agawam Building Department, donates a Chatillon Instrument Straight Scale to Sergeant Steve Draghetti (center) of the Agawam Police Department. This scale will be used by the police for force measurement calibrations, making it more accurate in calculating informational data results from traffic accidents. Looking on is Traffic Officer Tom Marmo. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Agawam Post Office Has Extended Hours For The Next Two Saturdays And Sundays

The Agawam Post Office will be offering extended hours for the holidays.

The extended hours are as follows:

*Check our  
classifieds...*

Saturdays, December 12 and 19th, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sundays, December 13th and 20th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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For more information about our grief support groups call us at 786-2600.



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## Veterans' Corner...

### Veterans' Preference: New Law Adds Teeth!

by Ruth C. Bitzas

Veterans' Agent — 786-0400, Ext. 236/237

In the December issue of *Stars and Stripes*: "When President Clinton signed the Veterans' Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 into law, he greatly expanded the Department of Labor's role for improving employment opportunities for veterans trying to get or keep jobs in the civilian federal service ... Veterans' preference entitles a veteran five-point or 10-point additions to passing examination scores if specific eligibility requirements are met.

"The new law guarantees that qualified veterans who have three or more years of honorable military service, or are eligible for preference status, can now apply for any federal job previously restricted to 'civil service status' candidates only. The law, therefore, considers military service time as an equivalent to civil service experience. The law also extends veterans' preference to certain jobs in the government's legislative and judicial branches. The law does not give preference to veterans not already having it and jobs open only to candidates within an agency are not affected.

**"THE VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE (VETS) ... NOT THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT (OPM), WILL NOW BE INVESTIGATING COMPLAINTS REGARDING POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF FEDERAL VETERANS' PREFERENCE REGULATIONS.**

"If a person believes his or her eligibility for preference is not being extended for the purpose of hiring or a reduction in force, that person may file a complaint in writing, to the Secretary of Labor within 60 days of the alleged violation. VETS will investigate each complaint and try to bring about voluntary compliance. If resolution cannot be achieved within 60 days, the claimant may appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB)."

This week we begin publishing our list of Vietnam War veterans whose Home of Record is Agawam.

**PLEASE NOTE: WE HAVE TENTATIVELY INCLUDED THE NAME OF WILLIAM D. ANDERSON. IN ORDER TO HAVE HIS NAME ON THE HONOR ROLL, WE NEED A COPY OF HIS DD 214. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE.**

**AGAWAM VIETNAM WAR VETERANS WHOSE LAST NAMES BEGIN WITH THE LETTER "A":**

Richard C. Abbott, Thomas J. Acquaro, David N. Adams, Richard J. Adams, Richard J. Adelman, Richard A. Alaimo, Leonard L. Aldrich, Victor R. Alessandri, Kenneth J. Allen, Paul J. Alves.

David J. Alvigini, Marshall P. Ambrose, Reginald L. Anderson, William D. Anderson (need DD 214), William O. Andrews, James A. Argiro, Raymond J. Armfield, Robert A. Arnett, Jr.

James H. Arnold, Richard D. Arnold, Roy R. Arnold, Thomas W. Arnold, Charles J.R. Assad, Brian Asta-Ferrero, Charles Asta-Ferrero, Clayton A. Augusti, Antonio V. Aussant, Thomas J. Aussant, Richard W. Austin, Richard J.J. Ayotte, Robert A. Aversa.

## Agawam Lions Club Slates Holiday Blood Drive For Dec. 12th

A Holiday Blood Drive, sponsored by the Agawam Lions Club, will take place this coming Saturday, December 12th, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Call 1-800-GIVELIFE for an appointment.

Each donor will be treated to a pancake breakfast, courtesy of the Agawam Lions Club.

Because of the large number of press releases, church notices, etc., that we receive during this time of the year, we cannot guarantee that these articles will appear more than once in our pages.

## CNA CLASSES

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## IRS Announces Names Of Agawam Residents Who've Yet To Receive 1997 Federal Refunds

Still waiting for your 1997 federal tax refund? The Internal Revenue Service is looking for 1,725 taxpayers whose checks were returned by the U.S. Postal Service.

Local taxpayers listed include Agawam residents Celeste V. Cola, Joseph J. Fiorentino, Giuseppe Giucastro, and Vivienne Deed Irwin.

Check amounts range from \$3 to \$23,478. They were undeliverable because of incorrect names and addresses or because taxpayers moved and did not give the IRS their new address.

"If you are due a refund and have not received it, call the IRS toll-free assistance line at 1-800-829-1040," said IRS District Director Steve Daige. "Our phone lines are open Monday through Saturday, from 7:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m., so call us to check on the status of your refund check."

Choosing to have your tax refund deposited directly to your bank account is the best way to ensure that your check is delivered and to guard against loss or theft. Last year, 19.2 million taxpayers nationwide chose the direct-deposit option by filling in just two extra lines on their tax forms.

If you have moved since your last return, the IRS urges you to file a Form 8822, "Change of Address." You may obtain this form by calling 1-800-829-3676 or by downloading it from the IRS Web site, [www.irs.ustreas.gov](http://www.irs.ustreas.gov).

Nationally, the number of undelivered checks -99,042 checks totalling \$68 million - is dwarfed by the total number of refunds issued by the IRS. In 1998, 82.8 million taxpayers received refunds.

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# Families

## Leonard House Ready For Dec. 13th Open House

by Kathy Shepard  
AAN Feature Writer

The original historical authenticity and elegance have been recaptured through renovations done to the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam Center. The Board of Trustees cordially invites you to the Christmas Open House and Dedication of the Minerva Davis Meeting Room on December 13th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. There will be a harpist, mulled cider, and tea.

The Board of Trustees will give guided tours and will be glad to point out the many changes brought about by efforts to restore the splendor of this historical structure. Over the years, the house has been carefully maintained, including the replacement of the roof, replacing of paper and paint, and similar repairs. Recently, the chimneys were all restored to their original shape and antique bricks of the period were used.

### Built In 1805

The house was built in 1805 by Captain Charles Leonard and his wife, Marcy Remington. He lived only a few years longer, passing away in 1809, but Marcy continued to operate the house as an inn. It was a stagecoach road, so the stagecoach would pull up near the driveway on the south side of the house, to the big double doors, and the ladies would go to the south parlor and the men would go into the old kitchen.

The innkeeper would serve tea to the women (women were not served alcohol) and the men were served hot toddy or rum in the old kitchen.

In subsequent years, the house fell into significant disrepair. In 1938, Minerva Porter Davis, widow of Charles Palmer Davis (originator of "The Weekly Reader," well-known to all school children), bought the property and had it restored to its original splendor.

After offering it to the Agawam Women's Club, who were hesitant due to the enormity of such a responsibility, Minerva turned the house over to a 15-member board of trustees. Every one of them is a local person whose appointment is lifelong. If one should resign, the board appoints a replacement.

"The Pine Room" (formerly the big community room) was taken down to the bare studs, and with help from a consultant and ideas from trustees and their spouses, many of whom are quite artistic, design ideas abounded, such as the wainscoating on the bottom and stencil on the upper portion of the room, adding to the effect of crown moulding and a fireplace.

The room is now "The Meeting Room," which will be dedicated to the woman, Minerva Davis, who rescued this lovely house from disrepair and made arrangements which allowed it to be maintained and ultimately brought to its rightful glory.

According to Marilyn Curry, one of the trustees, "We did so many things, it's completely changed. We even added four new doors, including a wheelchair regulation door on the ramp."

The kitchen was done over, too, and painted and papered. There were new counters put in and new lighting so caterers and others using the kitchen have a better view. "But the highlight," Mrs. Curry emphasizes, "will be the kitchen floor."

**SEE LEONARD HOUSE - Page 13...**



IN LEFT PHOTO: The fireplace in "The Meeting Room," with stenciling overhead done by Alice Smith, Curator of Early American Decor at the Springfield Museum of Art. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Marilyn Curry (trustee) and Marilyn Loomis, who both worked to make drapes for "The Meeting Room" and to fix up and restore much of the Leonard House. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.



THE DOWNSTAIRS HALLWAY of the Captain Charles Leonard House, which was used for socializing and even dancing. The Board of Trustees of the Leonard House cordially invites the public to a Christmas Open House this Sunday, December 13th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. During the Open House, the dedication of the Minerva Davis Meeting Room will take place. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

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## LEONARD HOUSE - from Page 12...

**A Real Surprise**

Trustee President James Loomis pointed out the places where boards from the attic were found and used to replace the few near the sink in the kitchen that had water damage - but that was after the boards were found beneath the linoleum they pulled up, intending to put another vinyl covering over it. "When the beauty of those original boards was uncovered, we felt it was important to restore them, and it really adds authenticity and grace to the place," Loomis noted.

Of the floor, Mrs. Curry says, "It's beautiful -striking." The floors in the entire building, like the rest of the natural wood, are immaculate and impressive.

Mrs. Curry and Marilyn Loomis worked on the drapes in the Meeting Room, with a lovely effect. At the same time, wallpaper in the north parlor was replaced with colonial wallpaper.

According to Jim Loomis, "What people see now is really 1805."

The Board of Trustees gave a great deal of time and effort to complete this project and their spouses, too, contributed, especially with artistic talent and knowledge, he said.

A highlight in the Meeting Room are the stencils taken from a Hamden Tavern and reproduced by Alice Smith, a well-known artist in her field. Mrs. Smith is curator of Early American Decor at the Springfield Museum of Art. Gloria McLellan helped on this project and the effect is quite stunning.

There will be many more details given at the Open House. Mrs. Curry said that some "very interesting things were found when the walls were stripped down, and these things will be shared during the tours at the Open House." This sounds mysterious, so there will be some surprises. The Open House and Dedication of the Minerva Davis Meeting Room should not be missed.

The Captain Leonard House was admitted to the National Register of Historic Places on March 10, 1975 where it takes its rightful place beside other nationally significant sites. The House is available for luncheons, teas, dinners, bridge parties, meetings, weddings, showers, and other social gatherings. For information or reservations, call 786-9421.

**ADVERTISER NEWS**

**JIM LOOMIS**, Leonard House Trustee President, sits on one of the matching sofas in the hallway. Loomis worked hard on the restorations for the house and will make a good tour guide during this Sunday's Open House. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

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## Agawam UNICO Slates Breakfast With Santa

The Agawam Chapter of UNICO National has announced that its upcoming "Pancake Breakfast with Santa" will be taking place on Sunday, December 13th at the Italian Sporting Club on Cooper St., Agawam from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

Tickets are \$3 for adults and children under nine years of age are free. Tickets are currently available from any UNICO member, this year's chairman, Art Chase, at 786-4265, or Sal Morassi, Jr., at 786-0177. They will also be available at the door.

All proceeds from the breakfast will be used to benefit Agawam UNICO and its many charitable activities. Agawam UNICO is well-known for its commitment to the community and the residents of Agawam.

Agawam UNICO continually provides scholarships as well as helping Agawam's mentally and physically challenged residents. The organization is also known for its contributions to the many student groups and civic activities throughout the community.

### Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, December 14th:** Salisbury steak with gravy, buttered noodles, peas, whole wheat bread, apple.

**Tuesday, December 15th:** Baked chicken breast, cheese baked potatoes, cauliflower, rye bread, apricots.

**Wednesday, December 16th:** Beef stew (potatoes, carrots, & celery), tossed salad, Vienna bread, ice cream.

**Thursday, December 17th:** Hot dog on a roll, baked beans, cole slaw, plums.

**Friday, December 18th:** Christmas Party — pot roast, baked potato, green beans almondine, roll, Christmas cake.

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## Crossing Guard Viola Sliech Has Many Memories

by Kathy Shepard  
AAN Feature Writer

When strangers ask Viola Sliech (she prefers "Vi") what she does for a living, she says, "I just stand on the corner at Feeding Hills Center." Then she laughs and explains that she is a crossing guard for the Agawam School Department.

But Vi Sliech doesn't meet many strangers. There are too many thousands of people who know her from the 25 years she has been helping children cross to Granger School. (Vi believes she might even be closing on 26 years there!) People who remember her for helping them cross the street now say to her, "Well, you're crossing my children now."

Anyone driving through Feeding Hills Center has become accustomed to her familiar face, where she stands at the light in front of the Pride Gas Station on the right corner (the right as one travels up Springfield Street toward Southwick), watching for kids, prepared to push the walk button, and let the children cross.

### No Intentions Of Retiring

Vi has no intentions of retiring. She enjoys this work and cannot imagine what she would do instead. Over the many years of service, she has proven to be most dependable, but folks also recognize another trait that she exercises constantly: patience. Marcos, a regular employee of the Pride Station on that corner, says of Vi, "She's an amazingly cheerful woman, considering the responsibility of her job and the many challenges."

Lynne, who manages the Pride Station, asserts, "Vi has coffee with us every morning and she is always in a good mood. Rain or shine, she cares for those kids. She really has a lot of patience."

Thanks are in order from the thousands of families Vi has kept safe. She was appointed to the job by former Chief of Police Stanley Chmielewski back in 1973 when he was Safety Officer. Vi was a replacement for another guard who had to leave the post. Vi's own three children were small, so the job was ideal (with summers off and proximity to her home) on Shoemaker Lane.



**VIOLA SLIECH**, who has been a crossing guard for Granger schoolchildren for 25 years, is definitely a familiar face in Feeding Hills Center. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

At one time, she had to go three times a day, but since a permanent crossing guard has been placed in front of the school, Vi goes twice daily, her hand on the "Walk" button, ever prepared to stop traffic and help some youths cross the intersection.

She likes the kids and says that, "All-in-all, they're good kids. There's always that one who makes it tough, but the rest make up for it."

Some of the children given her gifts and cards at holidays, and there always seem to be a few

that form special connections with her. "There is one child that always seems to have a little gift no matter what the special occasion. She gives me stickers and I put them on my sign ... it's still legible."

### Kids Say The Darndest Things

Vi tried to recall some of the funnier things she's overheard from children, and the one that stood out was about a child who said, "We're going to

**SEE VIOLA SLIECH - Page 15...**

Advertiser News!

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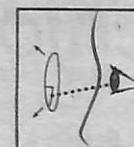
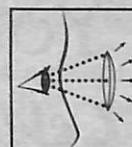
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**GRANGER CROSSING GUARD** Viola Slietch is now assisting the children of children she knew when she began her job over 25 years ago. In her 25-plus years of service to the town, no schoolchild has been injured. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

#### VIOLA SLIECH - from Page 14...

have a new baby in my family, because my parents are trying all the time."

In the tornado that hit in 1979 (October), Vi was out when it struck. Two children had already crossed the road and some other adults grabbed them and put them in Feeding Hills Congregational Church for safety. Vi relates that her "umbrella was flipped from my hand, almost bringing me with it. The wind was wild. Two little boys came up behind me as I made for my car. I brought them into the car with me, and the car was rocking from side-to-side. A tree fell right in front of the car and just missed it by a hair."

"After five minutes, I took the boys and ran into Granger and left the boys so I could look for my own son, Tom, who was in second grade. Someone said Tom had left and I panicked," she said.

Vi walked home, hoping to find her son, and when her husband, Steve, an Agawam police of-

ficer at that time, got home, they went looking and learned that Tom had been held back by a janitor and was safe.

"No one could get down South Westfield Street. Trees were all over, blocking the road. Finally, the wind died down."

A memorable change to the job came when instead of using their gloved hands, the crossing guards were given STOP signs by the Agawam Junior Women's Club.

"These have made a difference. Feeding Hills Center is very heavily travelled. At times, it can be frightening." Vi thinks it has gotten worse since Route 57 opened onto South Westfield Street. Tractor trailers, using the road to connect with 57, have increased in numbers, and the traffic in general seems worse," she said.

She has almost been hit a few times over the years and does have concern for the increase in traffic and the decrease in caution, especially by those unfamiliar with this intersection and the daily routine of children crossing.

The crossing guards used to be under the Police Department, but now fall under the School Department. At the beginning of the school year, Anne Zavarella of the School Dept.'s Central Office, and Public Safety Officer Steven Draghetti meet with all the crossing guards, go over anything new, and address any questions or concerns.

In her 25-plus years of service to the town as a crossing guard, no child has been injured. Although she hates the cold and laughs at the irony of getting up and going out so early in the morning, she wouldn't change anything. The crossing guard of Feeding Hills has no plans to retire her post and it is doubtful that the kids or the parents would allow her to.

When people come up to her at the market, or even at the Ingleside Mall, and say, "Aren't you the crossing guard at Feeding Hills Center?" and Vi says, "Yep, that's me," it is evident that this woman is very contented with her work. That's probably why she does it so well.

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# Wow — A Quarter Of A Century After Graduation...



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## AHS Class Of 1973 Holds 25th Reunion At Log Cabin Inn

Agawam High School's class of 1973 held its 25th reunion on Friday, November 27th, at the Log Cabin Inn. The evening was a huge success.

This large class of 367 had over half of its members in attendance at this gala event. It was a very elegant evening with live entertainment by "Brass Attack," an eight-piece brass band.

Our dinner boutique was a unique culinary selection prepared right in front of you. It was quite interesting!

Our first raffle was fun. We thank E.B.'s Restaurant and other businesses/individuals for their donations (they were greatly appreciated). The reunion committee worked hard to reunite our class on our 25th anniversary to make it a memorable evening.

Everyone had a great time and we hated to see the evening end. Many classmates traveled as far as California to visit with old friends.

This was a very active and terrific class. At 2:00 a.m., it was hard to see the evening end. However, we plan to do it again in 2003.

Until then, we'll look forward to seeing you in the new millennium!

## Ag. Women's Club To Meet On Dec. 14th

The Agawam Women's Club will hold its December meeting on Monday, Dec. 14th. Please note the change of the regular meeting date. The meeting will be held at The Captain Charles Leonard House at 7:30 p.m.

This being the Christmas meeting, we will each bring an exchange gift of not more than \$5 value. Also, we are planning a "cookie walk." Bring a batch or a couple dozen cookies to swap with each other. You may also bring your recipe if you care to share.

We look forward to the program by the Agawam High School Choir. Sounds like a fun-filled evening for everyone!

Please remember, guests are always welcome to our meetings.



**THE MEMBERS OF THE 25TH REUNION COMMITTEE**, which was responsible for the fantastic evening recently enjoyed by Agawam High School's class of 1973. Top row: Peggy Ahern Stearly, Susan Wotus Briotta, Susan Borgatti Meunier, Steve Richter, and Lenore Masciotra Brooks. Bottom row: Louie Ramah, Kathy Potito Wilson, Buddy Ramah, and Peggy Gacona.

## Mrs. Claus To Visit Ag. Public Library

Mrs. Claus will visit the Agawam Library on Saturday, December 12th, from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

Agawam and Feeding Hills preschoolers who are "true believers" are invited to bring their parents to the library's Community Room and chat with her. Cameras are welcome.

PREREGISTRATION IS A MUST. CALL 789-1550, OR VISIT THE LIBRARY TO SIGN UP.

## Fish & Chip Dinners Held Each Friday At The Agawam VFW

Each Friday evening, fish and chip dinners will be held at the Agawam VFW, Post 1632 (located at 194 South Street, Agawam).

The cost is \$5.95 per person, and the Friday night dinners will begin at 5:00 p.m. and end at 9:00 p.m.

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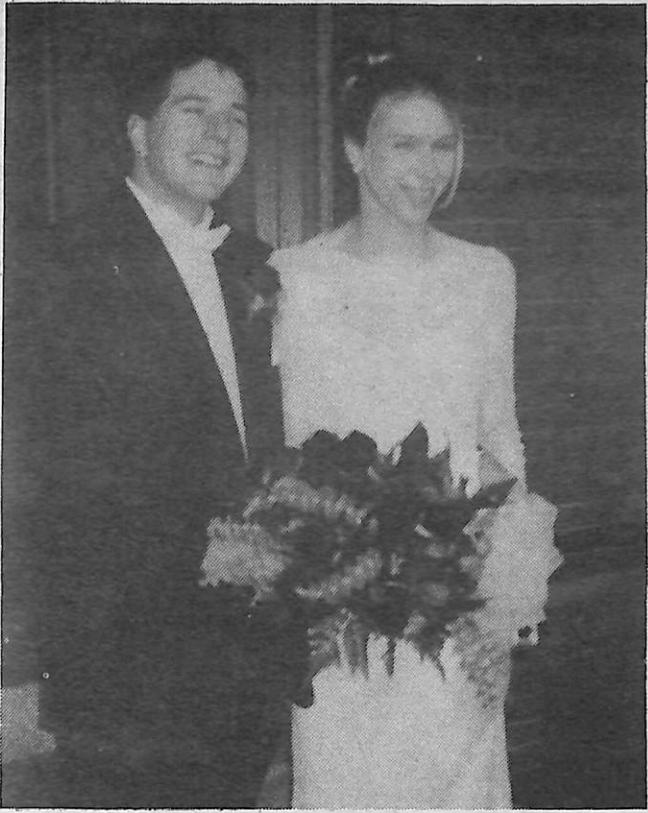
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## Angela M. Burroughs Becomes Bride Of David B. Dean

Angela Michelle Burroughs and David Brian Dean were united in marriage on October 11th at the Church of the Good Shepherd Episcopal in West Springfield.

The bride is the daughter of Ms. Karen Janson of Natick. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Dean of Agawam.

Ms. Chelsea Gloyd attended the bride as maid of honor. Mr. Michael Cook served the bridegroom as best man.

The bride is a 1992 graduate of Natick High School and a 1996 graduate of Regis College. She is currently pursuing her Master's Degree in Educational Psychology and Counseling at UConn and is a full-time intern at E.O. Smith High School, Storrs, Connecticut.

The bridegroom is a 1990 graduate of Agawam High School and a 1996 graduate of Northeastern University School of Pharmacy. He is a staff pharmacist for CVS in Bloomfield, Connecticut.

After a wedding trip to Jamaica, the couple is residing in East Hartford, Connecticut.

## New Year's Eve Dinner Scheduled At Agawam Senior Ctr.

The Agawam Senior Center will host a New Year's Eve Dinner on December 31st at 5:30 p.m. (In the event of inclement weather (snow storm), January 8, 1999 at 6:00 p.m.)

Dinner will include prime rib, baked potato, salad, roll, French apple square, and coffee.

Cost is \$11 per person. Advance ticket sales required.

Call 786-0400, ext. 242 or 243 for more information.



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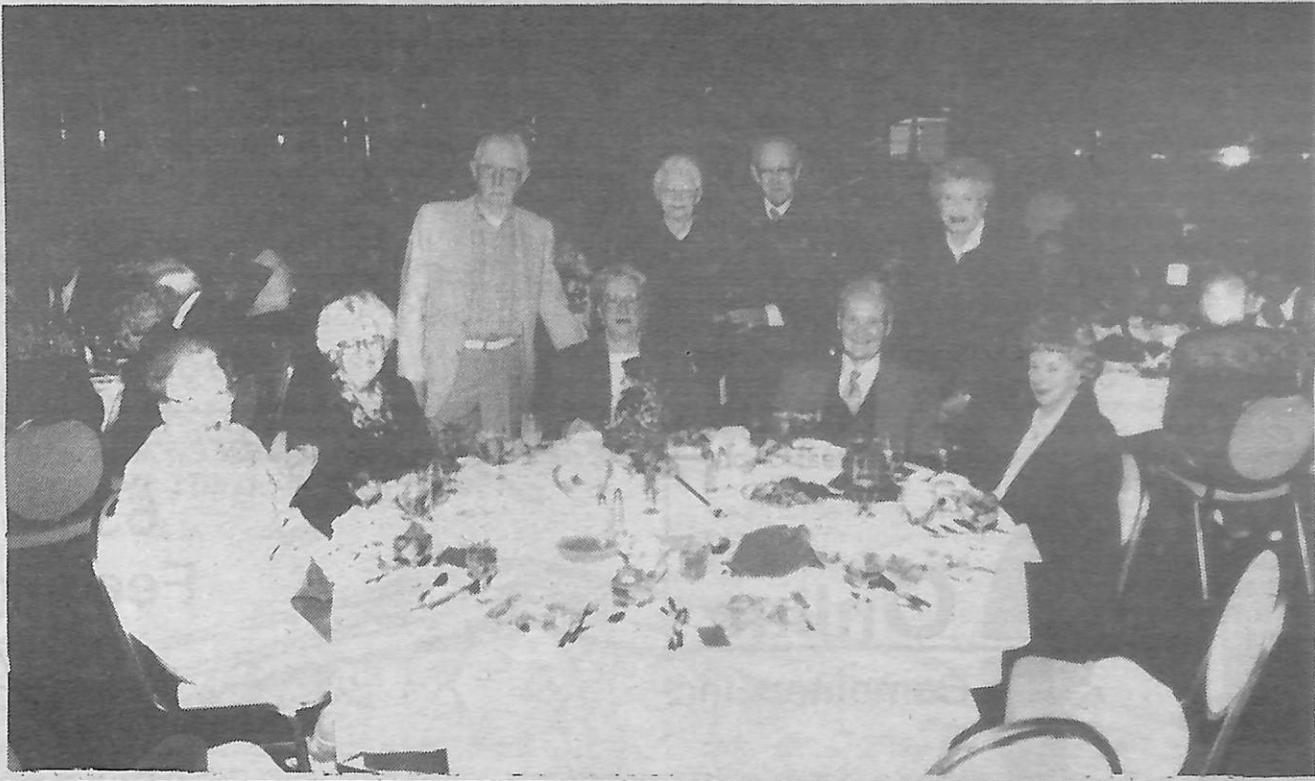
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ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, the Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter II held its annual Christmas Banquet in the Tivoli Room of Chez Josef in Agawam. The members of Chapter II would like to compliment the Chez Josef personnel for their delicious food, the prompt service, and the attractive Christmas decorations. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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## Chapter II Golden Agers Enjoy Yuletide Banquet

Treasurer James Birchall welcomed 160 members of the Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter II to the annual Christmas Banquet held in Tivoli Room of Chez Josef in Agawam on Wednesday, December 2nd.

Festivities began at 11:00 a.m. with a social for the holiday-dressed seniors who sipped tasty eggnog and ate crackers with cheese and dips while visiting with their many friends.

Promptly at 12:00 noon, treasurer James Birchall led the seniors in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and called club chaplain Leanore Dion to the podium to offer an opening prayer.

Following the banquet, Mr. Birchall expressed thanks and deep appreciation to the members of the party committee: Eileen Collier and Barbara Sherry, ticket sales; Arthur Collier, banquet coordinator; Virginia Lake, entertainment; and Edward Grimes, table arrangements.

He also complimented Chez Josef personnel for their delicious food, the prompt service, and the attractive Christmas decorations.

Program chairperson Virginia Lake introduced the entertainment for the afternoon, "The Old Rubber Band." The closing song was "God Bless America," which was sung with enthusiasm by everyone present. It was a memorable and enjoyable Christmas party.

## Travel Safely During The Holiday Season

"The holidays are a great time to see family and friends, especially when you haven't seen each other for a while," said Shirley LaRoche, R.N., coordinator of the Western Massachusetts SAFE KIDS Coalition headquartered at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital.

Safety should be included in all your plans this holiday season no matter how you choose to travel. LaRoche offers the following tips for your next holiday trip with your children.

### TRAVELING BY CAR

- Obtain and correctly install a child safety seat in your vehicle. For safety reasons, don't borrow a relative's or neighbor's child safety seat or purchase a used seat.

- Secure children correctly in a child safety seat or safety belt every time they ride in the vehicle. Children under 40 pounds should always be in a child safety seat.

- Never use pillows or cushions to boost your child. If the car is hit, the child may slide under the lap belt.

- Never put luggage on the back window shelf of the car.

And remember to take a rest every two to three hours. These rest breaks can be a time to let kids use up some of their energy.

### TRAVELING BY AIRPLANE

- Tell the airline when you make your reservations that you are traveling with a child. Many airlines will try to keep the seats next to you empty or give you a bulkhead seat. Also, try to reserve a seat around the middle of the plane. These seats are always the last to go, and if the plane is not full, then you'll get a seat for your child.

- Check with the airline to determine its policies on the use of child/infant safety seats. If your child is under age two, some airlines will let you use a safety seat in an adjacent vacant seat without purchasing a ticket. Then make sure your car safety seat meets federal motor vehicle standards and Federal Aviation Administration Regulations.

- Give kids gum or something to chew on during takeoff and landing. Give babies a bottle to help reduce the pressure that can build up in their ears.

For your child's entertainment, LaRoche recommends that you bring at least one of the following items on your trip: toys, coloring books, markers, blank paper, activity books, reading books, or walkman with story tapes.

"Knowing what to bring, being prepared, and taking safety precautions can help assure that you and your family have a safe and fun holiday trip," LaRoche said.

For more information, call the Western Massachusetts Safe Kids Coalition headquartered at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital at 794-5434.

\* \* \*

*Because of the large number of press releases, church notices, etc., that we receive during this time of the year, we cannot guarantee that these articles will appear more than once in our pages.*



AT THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BANQUET held by Chapter II of the Agawam Golden Age Club: STANDING - Treasurer James Birchall and Arthur Collier; SEATED - Virginia Lake, Barbara Sherry, and Eileen Collier. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

*Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12 noon.*

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# Church News

## Parish News And Events From St. John's Church

### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like your loved ones remembered in the purchase of our Christmas flowers, just put their name(s) on the special envelopes at the church doors, or any envelope clearly marked, and return it via the collection basket by December 20th.

We will list the names on a poster in the vestibule and include them in the bulletin.

### ADULT EDUCATION

Our Agawam Catholic Adult Education Series for Advent continues this week with a video program dealing with next Sunday's Scriptures.

Two programs are on tap; one on Tuesday mornings at Sacred Heart after the 8:00 a.m. Mass, and on Thursday evenings here at St. John's from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

We hope you will find the time to join us as a way to make "ready the way of the Lord."

### OVER 60 CLUB

Christmas lunch and entertainment at the Delaney House will be on December 17th. The bus will leave St. John's at 10:30 a.m.

### AGAWAM CATHOLIC SINGLES

The group meets on the second Thursday of every month.

### December Schedule:

**December 10th:** Pot Luck Christmas Party at 6:30 p.m. (\$5 gift optional). Call Barbra, 786-2660, or Carol, 789-2843.

**December 18th:** Christmas Gathering at Ramada. Call Irene, 789-2018.

**December 20th:** Assist with Giving Tree project after 11:30 Mass.

### THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree adorns the Sanctuary again this year after the marvelous experience of last year. There are still some "boots" on the tree.

If you did not get a chance last week, plan to take an ornament, buy the gift, wrap it and leave the ornament on the outside with the code number visible, and return it by December 20th.

May this project help all of us become spiritually ready to celebrate the Birthday of the Lord.

### CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

We are sure the ladies of the Women's Club and the Guild are rather exhausted after their year-long efforts to bring the Annual Christmas Bazaar to its successful conclusion last weekend.

It will be a while before the final figures are in, but the parish family deeply appreciates all the work involved in making this event happen.

### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

We have begun our support group here at St. John's. This is for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one.

Beginning this month, we will meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. For more information, call the Pastoral Office at 786-4499.

## ADVERTISER NEWS

\* \* \*

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Advertiser News!!!

\* \* \*



## Ag. Congregational Dedicates Bryan Hall...



THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH held its Bryan Hall Dedication Ceremony on Sunday morning, November 22nd. The Fellowship Hall was renamed "Bryan Hall" in loving memory of Rev. Floyd C. Bryan, former pastor, teacher, and friend. He was the pastor from 1964 to 1989, and received the honor of Minister Emeritus in October 1990. Pictured from left to right: Rev. Donald Morris, Rev. Curt Fuller, John Bryan, Phyllis Bryan, Janice Folts, Valerie Whitholt, Bob Watson, and Ray Wyckoff. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AT THE BRYAN HALL DEDICATION (from left to right): Richard Parker, Jeffrey Folts, Janice Folts, Julia Folts, John Bryan, Phyllis Bryan, Justin Folts, Valerie Whitholt, Jamie Whitholt, Thomas Whitholt, and Charles Brinkman. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

"BE PATIENT, THEN, BROTHERS,  
UNTIL THE LORD'S COMING.  
SEE HOW THE FARMER WAITS  
FOR THE LAND TO YIELD ITS  
VALUABLE CROP AND HOW  
PATIENT HE IS FOR THE  
AUTUMN AND SPRING RAINS."

- JAMES 5:7

Come and share in the fruits of Christ's harvest this weekend!

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Episcopal Church

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Worship Services: Saturday 5 pm & Sunday 8 am & 10 am  
Sunday School & Nursery Care: Sunday 10 am  
The Reverend Len Cowan

"Reconciling and Transforming Lives in Jesus Christ Our Lord"

**Church News - continued...****Honoring Rev. Bryan**

**AT THE RECENTLY HELD** dedication of Bryan Hall at Agawam Congregational Church, Rev. Curt Fuller (far left) introduces Rev. Bryan's wife, Phyllis, and their children: John Bryan, Janice Folts, and Valerie Whitholt. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

**"Melody Boys" To Perform At Catholic Women's Club Mtg.**

The "Melody Boys," a singing group comprised of men over the age of 65, will entertain with a program of Christmas and yuletide music following the 7:30 p.m. meeting of the Agawam Catholic Women's Club on Monday, December 14th.

The group has been harmonizing for 45 years and is directed by Gil LaMothe. Their spirited program includes favorite seasonal selections, hymns, and Christmas songs.

"They are people who just love to sing," according to Terry Longo, chairwoman of the program, "and community singing will be part of the event."

The "Melody Boys" have sung at area hospitals and clubs, at the Springfield Symphony Hall, and on a cruise ship to St. Thomas Island.

It should be fun for all, as Mrs. Claus will be a special guest. Persons bringing a \$5 gift will also receive a Christmas surprise.

Peggy Lepper is hospitality chairwoman for the evening and will be assisted by Ann Jackobek, Jane Trevethan, Mary Gontzaruk, Marilyn Greene, Elaine Smith, Barbara Pfau, Nancy Douquette, Theresa Barlow, Sheryl Mardeusz, Janet Wysocki, and Angela Beaudry.

The Christmas meeting will be in the Social Center of St. John the Evangelist Church, Main Street, Agawam. The "Melody Boys" are sponsored by the Springfield Golden Agers.

**ADVERTISER NEWS****Do You Provide Wellness Services?**

You may want to be included in the Massachusetts Directory of Wellness Service Providers if you and/or your organization provide health screenings, health risk assessments, fitness services, and/or health education.

Call 617-536-0501 x210  
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**"Weigh-Down" Program To Begin At St. David's**

Don't be a slave to food any longer. God does not intend for food to control us, but sometimes we let this happen.

Join us at St. David's Episcopal Church for a free, no-obligation orientation about the "Weigh-Down" Program. You may have seen this program highlighted recently on ABC-TV.

Orientation will be held on Tuesday, December 15th, at 7:30 p.m. at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

This is a 12-week program for both men and women. For a registration fee, participants receive their own manuals and audiocassettes for home study.

Classes will begin January 13th at 9:00 a.m., and January 14th at 7:30 p.m.

Since materials must be ordered before the start of class, individuals must be registered two weeks before the first class.

For more information about this exciting program, please call Sharon at (860) 668-8701.

**Annual Christmas Concert At Sacred Heart Church**

Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills will present its Annual Christmas Concert on Sunday evening, December 13th, at 7:00 p.m. in the church.

The Senior Choir will be singing the cantata "Noel, Jesus is Born."

The Junior Choir will also be featured. The combined choirs will be singing together from Vince Ambroselli's collection of Christmas songs.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served in the Parish Center after the concert. All are welcome.

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the needy of our community.

**For photo coverage in The AAN, call photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053.**

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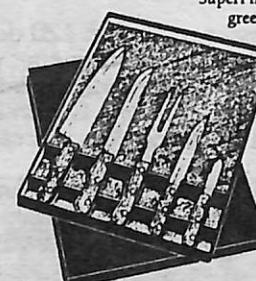
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Church News - continued...

## St. David's Church Holds Benefit Auction...



ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST, St. David's Episcopal Church held a Benefit Auction at the Polish Club. IN LEFT PHOTO: Bill Curran, Jacquelyn Snare, and Tonda Hudson; IN MIDDLE PHOTO: Lisa Johnson and Paula Tonelli with Spalding basketballs that were donated for the auction; IN RIGHT PHOTO: Jean Carpenter and Joanne Hudson with Christmas wreaths. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

## Advent Celebrations Continue This Sunday At First Baptist Church

"It's Not Where You Come From" will be the topic of Pastor Richard Barnes' sermon this Sunday at the 9:30 a.m. service of worship. Assisting him in leadership will be Jeanne Webster, who will lead the responsive reading.

Greeters for the morning include Hope and Dave Paradysz and Bernice Nowill. The third Advent candle will be lighted by Brent and Julie Mauer.

A social hour follows worship in Davis Hall, with classes for all ages being held until 11:45 a.m. Nursery care is provided.

The visiting committee will hold a brief meeting immediately following morning worship.

The special Advent series, "Prepare Ye The Way," held jointly with the Agawam Congrega-

tional Church, will be held this week at the Congregational Church location. The meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

An Advent drama will be presented by the combined efforts of the youth of the two churches. Child care is provided.

The series will come to a close on December 20th at the Congregational Church. Leaders of the series are Rev. Richard Barnes, Rev. Curt Fuller, and Dan Pender.

On our calendar this week:

**Monday, December 14th:** 7:30 p.m., Word Search Bible Study.

**Tuesday, December 15th:** 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 6:30 p.m., Mr. & Mrs. Club Dinner; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group.

**Wednesday, December 16th:** 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post.

**Thursday, December 17th:** 10:00 a.m., Bell Choir Rehearsal; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

The Junior and Senior Youth groups are selling angel pens, magnetic bookmarks, and other stocking stuffers from now until Christmas. This is a fundraising effort aimed at financing their summer mission trip to Rochester, New York, next August.

Check their table in Davis Hall this Sunday.

Caring Connection contacts for the month of December are Sharon and Doug Grabowski and Gwen and Jack Magovern.

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### WHAT'S THE INCARNATION?

**READ:**  
Hebrews 2:14-18

He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest.—Hebrews 2:17

**T**he incarnation. It's one of those big doctrinal terms that may puzzle us. What does it mean? Let's take a few moments to think about it.

Look at yourself in a mirror. What do you think it would feel like to be a different person? You will never know. You may modify your body by exercise and diet. You may change your mind and your behavior. You may even resort to surgery. But you and I will forever be the unique individuals God created us to be. Regardless of how much we may try, we can't actually experience what it is to be another person.

What was it like, then, for God to take on our human nature and live as a man who was despised and misunderstood on this fallen planet? (Isa. 53). He already knew exactly what sinful people go through. After all, He is all-knowing. Yet He voluntarily came to Bethlehem, entered into our suffering and sorrow, and personally experienced our trials and temptations (Heb. 4:15). He lovingly became one of us to pay the penalty for our sins and to conquer death (Heb. 2:14). Because He suffered, He is able to assist us now (v.18).

That's what the incarnation is all about. And if we thank Jesus for all eternity, it still won't be enough. —VCG

*Touched with sympathy within;  
He knows our feeble frame;  
He knows what sore temptations mean,  
For He hath felt the same.* —Watts

THE SON OF GOD BECAME THE SON OF MAN  
TO CHANGE SONS OF MEN INTO SONS OF GOD.

**Church News - continued...****Weekly Calendar From  
Ag. Congregational**

This Sunday, December 13th, is the Third Sunday in Advent. The Worship Service begins at 10:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Fuller's sermon will be "Healing & Wholeness," taken from Text: Isaiah 35:1-10. The children's message, "A Bandage For The Heart," taken from Text: Matthew 3:12, will be given by sixth-grader Katelyn LaValley.

This is Youth Sunday. The fifth-and sixth-grade youth of the church will be reading and participating in the Worship Service. The Lake family (Andrew, Jennifer, and Alex) will be lighting the Advent Candle at the beginning of the Worship Service.

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is canned juice.

Items collected will be donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

The Advent Series, "The Jesse Tree," continues this Sunday, December 13th. It will be held at the Agawam Congregational Church for the next two Sundays from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., with Fellowship Time to follow.

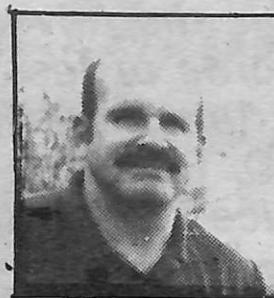
All are welcome to make crafts for our "Jesse Tree." The series is led by Rev. Curt Fuller, Rev. Rick Barnes, and Christian Education/Youth Director Dan Pender.

The Christmas Eve Pageant Service (5:00 p.m.) rehearsals continue on Saturday, December 12th, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m., and on Saturday, December 19th, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Many people, young and old, are invited to participate. Call the church office at 7286-7111 if you would like to participate.

The "Bright Nights" Mini Christmas Bus Trip has been scheduled for this Friday, December 11th, with the bus leaving promptly at 6:30 p.m. from the church parking lot.

The Christmas Eve Service Schedule is as follows: 5:00 p.m. (pageant), 7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. (Candlelight Services).



**Reflections...**  
submitted by  
**Rev. Peter Monahan**  
Pastor of the New Life  
Christian Church,  
Suffield, CT  
(860) 668-4444 or  
(413) 786-8735

**God Is Committed To Us**

People like me often speak of the need for individuals to make a commitment to God. To some people, such talk may sound like an appeal to subscribe to a particular religious theory, much like one would subscribe to a political theory. Being "conservative" or "liberal" has certain meanings. Such theories tend to guide the way we interpret events in life. Some people have mistakenly understood the concept of being "born again" similarly as a religious theory.

Any person can adopt a political or religious theory in a vacuum. In other words, a person can subscribe to such a theory all by himself or herself. No one else needs to be involved in the activity. Indeed, we often consider our political leanings to be a private matter.

The problem with thinking of being "born again" or of making a personal commitment to God through Jesus Christ as a religious theory is that Christianity is not a one-person phenomenon. It never can be, because Christianity requires at least two parties to be involved; a person and God. Christianity differs from all other religions in that it is not at all about theories, or even about religion, for that matter. It is all about relationship. Jesus offers each of us a personal relationship with God. Every relationship requires at least two participants, and with regard to Christianity, one of those participants must be God Himself.

Any relationship between persons which is worth its salt involves commitment. Spouses who are not committed to each other might as well not

be married. Families which lack commitment will ultimately fall apart. So, too, does any relationship between God and a person require commitment. It requires a commitment by both participants.

The commitment Jesus calls upon each individual to make is actually a response to the commitment God has already made to all of us. Jesus said, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life."

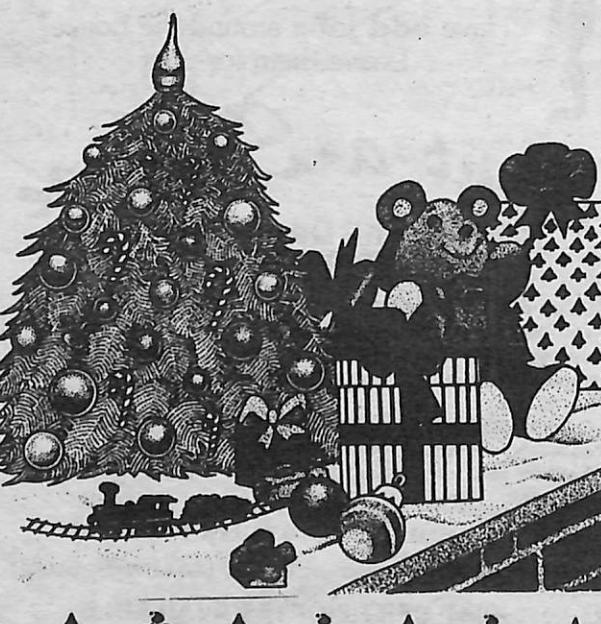
Christmas is not about giving gifts to each other, nor even about out love for each other. Christmas is about the commitment that God made a long time ago to each of us. Christmas is about God's love for us and the gift of life God gives to us.

Relationships are by their very nature dynamic, and usually include periods of difficulty. Sometimes difficulties arise out of misunderstanding. We do not always understand God's way. For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. At times, the events of our lives might seem to contradict the notion that God has committed Himself to us in love in any meaningful way.

At such times, it is helpful to remember that God was faithful and committed to previous generations of believers. The Scripture encourages us, as an example of patience and suffering, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Indeed, we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, and how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Just as we love God because He first loved us, so also each of us can confidently commit ourselves to God through Christ, because God is already committed to us. Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever.

**Our "Church News" is just one more reason why you turn our pages...**



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**Church News - continued...****News & Notes From  
F.H. Congregational**

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m. and will include a collection of food and clothing for the Open Pantry.

The Lectionary readings for December 6th, the third Sunday of Advent, are Isaiah 35:1-10, Psalm 146:5-10, or Luke 1:47-55, James 5:7-10, and Matthew 11:2-11. The Waller family will light the third candle of Advent.

Candy Boucher, Executive Director of the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry, will present the sermon. Her presentation, "It Doesn't Just Happen," will take a look at the impact of welfare reform on our neighbors in need, possible responses, and will suggest opportunities for faith in action.

Children are welcome to attend worship with their parents, leaving at the designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

There will be a collection taken next Sunday, December 20th, to support the Veterans of the Cross and Christmas Fund. This fund helps provide for retired clergy and their spouses.

The collection will be continued at both Christmas Eve services as well as on December 27th.

The Board of Stewardship and Missions is collecting Health, Clean-up, and Layette kits for Church World Services. Slips listing the contents of each kit are available in Griswold Hall.

Kits may be dropped off in the box in Griswold Hall by December 27th. Please feel free to make more than one kit; there is a great need for kits due to Hurricane Mitch!

Join us for another "Night at the Movies" sponsored by the Board of Christian Education on Friday, December 11th, at 7:00 p.m.

This Sunday, December 13th, at 5:00 p.m., members and friends will meet at the church for pizza, hot chocolate, and Christmas caroling.

Come and celebrate this holiday season!

On the fourth Sunday of Advent, December 20th, we will gather at the church for a Christmas Pageant Presentation at 4:00 p.m. The festive evening will include a pot luck supper as well.

Please note the next newsletter deadline is Thursday, December 17th.

There will be Christmas Eve worship services again this year at 7:00 and 11:00 p.m.

On the calendar:  
**Friday, December 11th:** 7:00 p.m., Movie Night.  
**Sunday, December 13th:** 10:00 a.m., Open Pantry Sunday followed by welfare reform letter writing session; 2:00 p.m., Pack meeting; 5:00 p.m., Pizza and caroling party.

**Monday, December 14th:** 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts.

**Tuesday, December 15th:** 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Deacons.

**Wednesday, December 16th:** 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Music Committee; 7:00 p.m., Choir; 7:30 p.m., CE Committee.

**Thursday, December 17th:** Newsletter deadline; 7:00 p.m., A.A.

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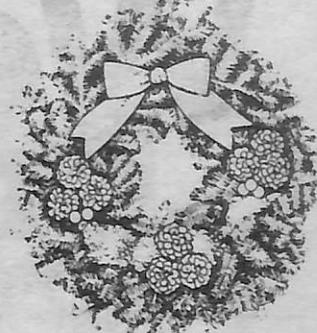


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Plain - **\$5.95**

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Only **\$1.95** yard

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8" Pots - **\$6.95**

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Watch the wreath & garland being made at the  
Garden Center. Let us make your fresh wreath.





## Spotlight On Business

THE SIGN WELCOMING CUSTOMERS to  
The Garden Emporium. Advertiser News photo by Jack  
Devine.

### The Garden Emporium Hopes To Become A "Destination Location"

In *The American Heritage Dictionary*, an entrepreneur is defined as a person who "organizes, operates, and assumes the risk of a business venture."

When Connecticut resident Robert Burko purchased the former Mitch's Garden Center located at 1265 Suffield Street, Agawam, from the bank holding the foreclosed property, he envisioned the 18,000-square-foot facility as "destination location," perhaps having a regional reputation like Yankee Candle Company up in Deerfield or the popular Atkins or Randall Farms.

The early 30-something Burko came into his newest and by far most ambitious business venture with small business experience and a positive attitude that can be infectious. Four months later, a good portion of Burko's vision has exploded onto the local scene as "The Garden Emporium," a full florist, gift shoppe, nursery, and (during this holiday season) a center of Christmas trade.

Burko says the many hurdles he needed to overcome in first purchasing the bank-held facility and then during the massive renovation process were well worth the effort when "The Garden Emporium" officially opened for the Christmas season the day after Thanksgiving. The place was overrun with shoppers buying Christmas trees, custom-made wreaths, Christmas decorations, and the huge selection of upscale and unusual gifts that will certainly be welcome under anyone's Christmas tree.

"Our entire effort is aimed at our destination

location theme," Burko said, "and not just during the holiday season, which of course is receiving our major attention right now. We want people to come here all year round for our huge floral shop, lawn and garden center, and our gourmet gifts."

These gourmet gifts include specialty food items, home decor, glassware, candles, specialty furniture, ceramics, special kitchen items, decorative bottles, aroma therapy, specialty craft items, as well as other unique craft items and garden gifts.

The floral shop features custom floral arrangements, a full line of dried and silk florals, custom-created gift baskets, wedding and event floral services, beautiful fresh flower bouquets, and blooming and green plants.

During this Christmas season, the kids will love the Christmas Theme Room. Santa paid a visit there the past two weekends.

And scheduled to open on February 1st is an expanded gift department and "The Garden Cafe," a gourmet and beverage bar, according to Burko.

"The Garden Emporium" is open Monday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

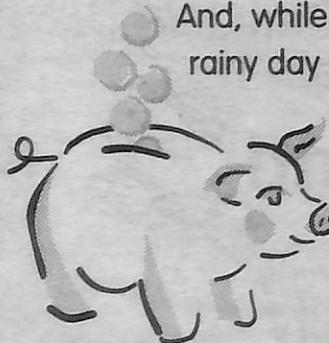
Stop in. Those who remember the old place will be truly amazed at what Burko and his staff have accomplished in such a short time. For several months, Burko hung a sign under the street signage that read his "Garden Emporium" was under new ownership and new management. Just walk through the front door. There will be no doubt about that fact once you step in.

*This season, be sure to patronize local businesses for your holiday needs.*

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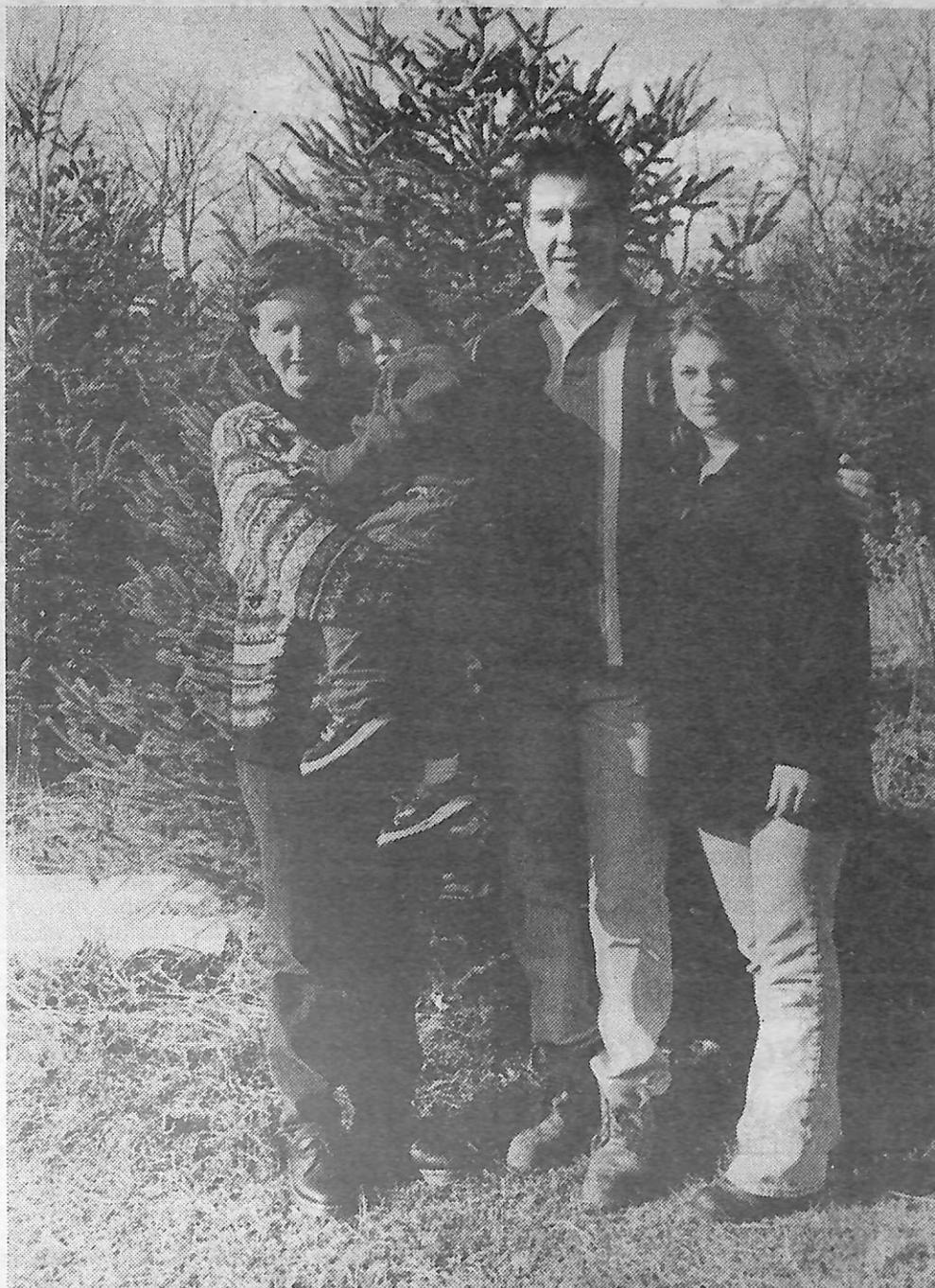
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*Spotlight On Business - continued...*

## Looking For Holiday Decorations At Greeneedle



THANKS TO THE UNSEASONABLY WARM WEATHER we've been experiencing lately, outdoor holiday shoppers didn't have to worry about getting "cold feet" when it came to looking for Christmas trees and wreaths. At Greeneedle on South West Street, Feeding Hills, some of these shoppers included the Beauchane family (Cheryl, Andre, George, and Sara - in left photo) and Carlo Montori, Kara Montori, and Lorna Reynolds (right photo). Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

*Check our classified ads for the best in local goods and services...*



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### Home Of The Week



#### FEEDING HILLS

Well cared for 7 Room, 3 BR, 1½ Bath vinyl sided Cape on ½ flat acre. Fenced yard with a large gazebo, Din Rm w/built-in hutch. Ceramic tile flr in kit. Hardwood flrs. Fireplace. Enclosed Sunroom. Gar. & more. Call today!

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Linda Lewis

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5 Rm Ranch, gar., super yard . . . . .	\$85,900
Mini Farm w/2 acres & barn. Plus 5 Rm Col. . . . .	\$116,900
Cedar sided 3 BR Ranch w/view, Southwick . . . . .	\$122,900
Pristine 2 BR, 2 Bath Condo w/rec rm & gar . . . . .	\$125,900
7 Rm, 4 BR Cape. Gas heat, Cent. air. 2 car gar . . . . .	\$129,900
Vinyl sided 1,500 sq ft Ranch w/2 car gar & ½ acre . . . . .	\$139,900
Great 6 Rm R/Ranch on golf course. 2 baths. Whirlpool tub . . . . .	\$149,900
Custom Ranch w/2 gar, barn, shed, pool on 1-plus acres . . . . .	\$155,900
Newer 7 Rm, 3 BR, 2½ Bath, 2 car gar. Great area . . . . .	\$196,900
New 2,500 Sq. Ft. 4 Bedrm, 2½ Bath Col on cul de sac on 2 acres . . . . .	\$249,900

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### Landmark Realtors

#### Santa's Coming

To LANDMARK  
at 1325 Springfield St., F.H.  
Community Shops

Sunday, Dec. 13th  
from 1-3 in the afternoon  
FREE PICTURES with Santa!

*Spotlight On Business - continued...*

## Customers Are "Flocking" To Local Businesses...



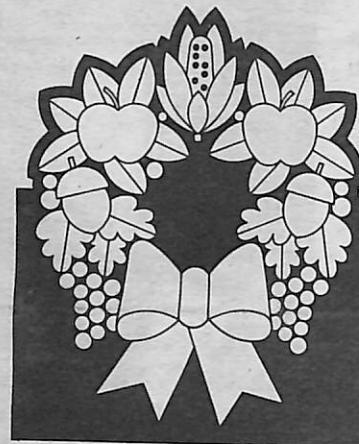
OVER AT DeCaro Brothers Garden Center, located at 1236 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mary Ann Cardaropoli and Bill Raymond are proud of the selection of Christmas wreaths. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



LU BLACKAK is all smiles as she holds a flocked wreath available at Cascio Company Landscaping, 262 Meadow Street, Agawam. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ARNIE CONE wants to remind you about the Christmas trees available from the Agawam Call Fire Department. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



## Christmas Is Coming!

And

### Richard Stepanik & Sons Farm Stand

1039 Shoemaker Lane, Feeding Hills

**NOW OPEN  
FOR THE SEASON**

- Quality Christmas Trees (All Shapes And Sizes)
- Beautiful Wreaths (Many Sizes)
- Cemetery Logs
- Poinsettias
- Handmade Crafts

*Free  
Delivery*

*Open Seven Days*

*Come And Enjoy Our  
Display Of Lights*

## Spotlight On Business - continued...

### Westbank Opens Full-Service Office In Southwick

Park West Bank and Trust Company held the grand opening celebration for its 13th branch on Friday, November 20th.

The branch, located at Karmen Rhodes Plaza, 515 College Highway, is a full-service community office. The staff consists of Rebecca L. Thompson, Branch Manager; Mary V. Frye, Assistant Branch Manager; and Melissa Beaupre, Service Associate.

For customer convenience, there is a drive-up window and an automatic teller machine (ATM). The grand opening promotion was community-oriented, and a drawing for 10 gift certificates to local businesses will be held at a future date.

In order to accommodate the local business community, Michael M. Lefebvre, Vice President, Commercial Loans, will be available to make loan decisions locally.

Many local and state dignitaries participated in the ribbon-cutting, as well as representatives from Westbank.

"You may have heard us say that at Westbank, we have our roots where other banks have their branches. Now that we're opening our new community office in Southwick, we are looking forward to demonstrating our commitment to you. That's not lip-service — we put our money where our mouth is," said Donald R. Chase, President and Chief Executive Officer of Westbank.

Westbank has a wide variety of banking services and products, such as Business/Personal Checking and Savings Accounts, Certificates of Deposit, Platinum Money Market Accounts, IRA's, Mortgages, Home Equity Loans, WESTEL Telephone Banking, and Trust and Investment Services handled locally and not out of town.

Westbank has 13 branches in Western Massachusetts, including three supermarket branches with assets of \$350 million.

Park West Bank and Trust Company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Westbank Corporation (NASDAQ/WBKC).



**AREA OFFICIALS SUCH AS** State Representative Daniel Keenan and State Senator Michael Knapik were on hand with Westbank representatives to help the bank open its 13th branch with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, November 20th. Westbank's newest branch is a full-service community office and is located in Southwick at Karmen Rhodes Plaza, 515 College Highway. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



### Molta Associates To Help "Toys For Tots" Program

Southwick: Coldwell Banker affiliate sales associates would like all children to experience holiday joy. In cooperation with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, they will be participating as Toys for Tots sponsors this holiday season.

Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates will serve as an official collection center now through December 20th. The public is encouraged to participate by donating new, unwrapped toys at a Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates office. The offices are located at 10 Bliss Road, Longmeadow; 1506 A Allen Street, Springfield; 770 Main Street, Agawam; 48 Elm Street, Westfield; and 613 College Highway, Southwick.

If you are unable to drop off a toy at one of the offices but do wish to donate, please contact Kathy Rose at 748-6137.

"Every child should be given the opportunity to have a happy holiday season," said Robert P. Molta, President of Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates. "With the community's support, we'll be able to provide children in need in the greater Springfield area with a more memorable holiday experience."

Founded in 1947, Toys for Tots has evolved from a small Los Angeles-area project to a nationwide campaign. The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve distributes the toys to local charitable organizations.

Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corporation, a subsidiary of Cendant Corporation (NYSE:CD), franchises more than 2,800 independently owned and operated real estate offices with nearly 62,000 sales associates throughout North America.

In addition to servicing the full spectrum of the residential real estate market, Coldwell Banker is an industry leader in the sales of luxury homes through its Previews program. Coldwell Banker Online, one of the most comprehensive real estate industry web sites, is located at <http://www.coldwellbanker.com>.

For more than 90 years, Coldwell Banker has been North America's premier full-service provider of real estate services.

\* \* \*

**Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon...**

\* \* \*

*For copies of his photos in this edition, contact Jack Devine at 789-0053...*



Gift Certificates Available

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430 Main Street • Agawam  
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**"Christmas Wish List"**

Acrylic Nails	Pedicure
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**Specials With Coupon Only (Exp. 12/31/98)**

<b>Full Set</b> Acrylic Nails <b>\$30.00</b>	<b>Hot Oil</b> Manicure <b>\$10.00</b>	<b>Tanning</b> One Month Unlimited <b>\$35.00</b>
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**Spotlight On Business - continued...****Legal Memo**

by

**Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.**  
546 Springfield St., F.H.  
(413) 786-9454

**Motor Vehicle Negligence  
Multi-Car Collision**

On a cold winter day, the 62 year-old Plaintiff was standing next to his parked automobile at curbside opening the driver side door. At the same time, the Defendant driver skidded into the intersection, struck another moving vehicle, and that vehicle, in turn, veered toward and struck the Plaintiff.

The Defendant had skidded on out onto the intersection as a result of "black ice" on the roadway from the previous night's storm.

Although the Defendant driver was not speeding, the Plaintiff contended that the Defendant failed to have his vehicle under complete control given the special roadway hazards. The Defendant contended that the mishap was unavoidable and due to superseding causes beyond his control.

The Plaintiff sustained a fracture of the right tibia, dislocated shoulder, head contusions, and lacerations. He claimed to have psychiatric injuries as well. He was confined to a hospital for two weeks and thereafter underwent therapy for an additional three weeks.

He was later confined at home with a walker and a cane. He recovered from these orthopedic injuries with remaining partial disability of the shoulder, but a psychiatrist has rated him permanently disabled from gainful employment due to emotional injury. The Plaintiff incurred medical bills in excess of \$70,000.

The case settled for the Plaintiff in the amount of \$500,000.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.

\* \* \* \* \*

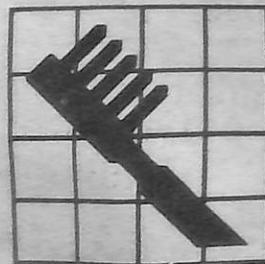
**Our "Spotlight On Business" is just one more reason why you turn our pages each and every week ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!**

\* \* \* \* \*

We have moved our office to Feeding Hills Center. Our new office opened on Dec. 1st and we welcome our current patients and new patients at the new location.

# AGAWAM DENTAL CARE

James Maslowski DMD / Ronald Pahl Jr. DMD



Our new address  
**1325 Springfield Street  
Community Shops  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030  
(413) 786-7313**

**Travel Talk...**

by Lori Keeley, CTC  
Travel Connections, LTD  
10 Chestnut Street  
West Spfld., MA 01089  
(413) 732-1313

**Holiday Travel And Overbooking Of Flights**

Now that the holiday season is upon us and many people are traveling here and there, how about a refresher on airline practices and policies regarding the overbooking of flights?

As you know, airlines do overbook flights and at one time or another, you may have been bumped from your flights. The following notice is a standard for most airlines. This notice is printed from the Airline Reporting Corporation and should be with your airline tickets.

*Airline flights may be overbooked, and there is a slight chance that a seat will not be available on a flight for which a person has a confirmed reservation. If the flight is overbooked, no one will be denied a seat until airline personnel first ask for volunteers willing to give up their reservation in exchange for a payment of the airline's choosing. If there are not enough volunteers, the airline will deny boarding to other persons in accordance with its particular boarding priority. With a few exceptions, persons denied boarding involuntarily are entitled to compensation.*

The complete rules for the payment are available at all airport ticket counters and boarding locations.

So for this holiday season, my advice to you is check in early at least one hour prior to your scheduled flight time. Try to do any exchanges or purchases ahead of time. It might mean a trip out to the airport several days prior, but the time it saves is well worth it. Better yet, use a travel agent. They can save you time and aggravation and for a very small fee, it is well worth it.

If anyone has a question or would like some advice on a travel matter, please call me at Travel Connections LTD, 413-732-1313 or Fax at 413-731-1449. I would love to hear from you!

**Pam Savioli**  
Landry, Lyons &  
Whyte Co./Better  
Homes & Gardens  
(413) 748-7565

**Get The Lead Out...**

Lead, which can cause high blood pressure, kidney disease, and brain damage, lurks all around us in plumbing pipes, paints, dishes, pottery, and even canned foods.

The good news is that it is possible to protect your family against lead poisoning.

If you live in a home built or replumbed before 1988, lead may leach from lead-based solder, when water sits in the pipes overnight. Letting the water in each tap run full force for 20 seconds or more will clear the pipes. Consider having your water tested to see if your water does contain lead.

Half of all homes contain lead-based paint. It poses no threat unless disturbed. If your paint is peeling, seal it up by painting over it. If the paint is badly deteriorating, it's the dust that is dangerous, so gently scrape paint off or hire a paint removal service.

A few manufacturers still use lead-soldered cans, so to be safe, buy foods in seamless aluminum cans or welded steel cans.

American manufacturers are required to fire pottery at temperatures hot enough to permanently bond lead to the glaze. Beware of imported ceramicware, which is not guaranteed to be lead-safe.

For more home safety tips, call Pam Savioli at (413) 748-7565.

**ADVERTISER NEWS**

## Just In Time For Christmas

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**SMALL ENGINE REPAIR**

365 College Highway  
Southwick  
Phone: (413) 569-6800

We Now Carry A  
Full Line Of Husqvarna  
Power Equipment:

**ST926EC  
Snow Thrower**

- 9 hp 4 cycle Tecumseh Snow-King engine
- Electric Start
- 26" Clearing Path
- 2 Year Consumer Warranty

**1599<sup>95</sup>****ST1030EC  
Snow Thrower**

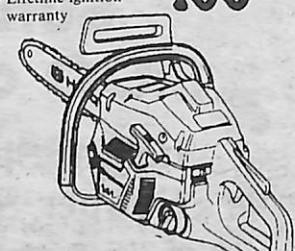
- 10 hp 4 cycle Tecumseh Snow-King engine
- Electric Start
- 30" Clearing Path
- 2 Year Consumer Warranty

**1699<sup>95</sup>****136 Chain Saw-14"**

- 2.2 cu. in. - 2.2 hp
- Inertia chain brake
- Lifetime ignition warranty

**179<sup>95</sup>****141 Chain Saw-16"**

- 2.4 cu. in. - 2.5 hp
- Inertia chain brake
- Lifetime ignition warranty

**199<sup>95</sup>**

- Chain Saws
- Grass Trimmers
- Clearing Saws
- Blowers
- Hedge Trimmers
- Roto Tillers
- Riding Mowers
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- Pole Saw Pruner
- Power Cutters
- Tillers
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Plus Parts And Accessories

Complete Small Engine Repair Service  
Offering Prompt, Courteous Service On  
Your 2-Cycle Or 4-Cycle Engine

# For Your Health



## Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph S. Schlaffer  
Schlaffer Chiropractic Offices  
192 Shoemaker Lane  
Agawam

### Skiing This Winter? Be Careful.

If you're an avid skier like me, you undoubtedly remember watching the 1998 Winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan. You may have seen the outstanding performance by Austria's Hermann Maier.

Arnold Schwarzenegger affectionately calls him the "Hermanator." Maier, who is a veteran alpine skier, won the gold medal in the Men's Super G. His chance at a gold medal in the men's downhill was cut short by one of the most spectacular falls in recent memory. If you witnessed this fall, you probably wondered how he did not break any bones or worse!

As a skier, perhaps you've been involved in a bad fall. Torn ligaments and tendons are a common result. Occasionally, a fracture occurs. The earth is very unforgiving. Stop and consider for a moment what happens to the delicate spine during a bad skiing mishap. The spine is often over-compressed, or over-flexed or extended. An injury on the ski slope is very often the same type as that received in an auto crash. The body is struck or badly jarred, and the bones in the neck or back can be misplaced, or sometimes fractured.

When this occurs in an arm or leg, the fractured bone is set and nature heals the break with time. But not so easily detected and more threatening is a misplaced or damaged vertebra in the spinal column.

If one or more of these bones is even slightly out of line, it can mean pressure on the nerves inside the spine and actual partial or complete paralysis of muscles and organs.

It can cause permanent spinal curvature later, which shows up with startling clarity on x-rays of many patients.

Today, many top athletes have a team of health providers on hand to provide immediate help when injury occurs. A doctor of chiropractic is often part of this team. While skiing is one of the most exhilarating winter sports there is, no bad fall should be forgotten until after a chiropractic consultation and examination.

If you've had a bad fall or other injury, feel free to call us at the Schlaffer Chiropractic Office, 192 Shoemaker Lane. We're ready to help. Call 789-1369 or 789-1073.

## Fitness Tips...

### Illness & Exercise

by Carmela A. Kirk, RN  
Ass't. Fitness Director, Fitness First

Should you exercise when you are sick? Good question. It really depends on a lot of factors. First, what do you call sick?

Is it a cold that has you stuffy, sneezy, achy, and feeling lousy? Or the flu, with various symptoms. Are we talking about something you are being treated by a physician for?

The second factor would be, what are you calling exercise? Are you going for a 20-minute walk? Are you in training for a race? Are you in the height of a weight loss program?

Let's start with the more sobering diagnosis. Anything that has you going to the doctor and/or taking prescription medication, talk to your doctor. Make the decision with him/her. He/she may defer to your trainer or exercise specialist, in which case we need a note giving us the okay to work with you and perhaps some guidelines, if needed.

Now let's talk about your colds and flu. If you've gotten a fever, don't exercise. Your body is already heated, your heart rate is up, and you are using a lot of fluid in your body. A fever is your body's attempt to fight an intruding organism. Let your body work. If you don't have a fever but are in the height of a good cold, you may want to take one to two days off.

Let your body rest, drink lots of fluids, and get over the hump. If you feel up to a short walk outdoors, the sunshine and fresh air are very helpful. If you are in training, cut it down a little. If you've been training properly, this little break will not be too much of a setback.

Be concerned about your fitness level deteriorating if you do not exercise for three to four days. Otherwise, it's okay. This is also true for weight loss. If you have been slowly losing weight, one to two pounds per week, and exercise is key to your program, relax. One of the beauties of slow, consistent weight loss is that it is also slow to come back. Again, if you are doing it correctly, don't worry.

I would like to take a minute to talk about cold medicine. Most of the things you would take for a cold will dry out your tissues and stimulate your nervous system. BE AWARE. It is very easy to become dehydrated when you exercise and when you are sick. Put these two together and the chance of dehydration is great.

Overall, go with how you feel. Listen to your body. Here's a neat idea - how about rest when you're tired and exercise only if you have the energy! If you find it very hard to quit when you know you should be resting, you need to explore your need to exercise a little further.

## How To Shovel Snow Safely This Winter

Will the winter of 1999 be as mild as last year with little snowfall, or will we be digging out from under tons of the heavy white stuff this season?

Only time will tell.

"Even if the snowfall never becomes heavy, it's a good idea to familiarize yourself now with how to protect your back and heart while removing that often beautiful, but heavy white stuff," said Dr. John Santoro, vice chairman, Emergency Medicine, Baystate Medical Center.

"Persons who have coronary artery disease and other illnesses should avoid exposure to cold weather, especially when shoveling," said Santoro.

Santoro said anyone experiencing the symptoms suggestive of a heart attack should be brought to the Emergency Department immediately.

"If the person is having a heart attack, it can be stopped in the Emergency Department with medication. But time is of the essence with the heart muscle and any delay makes the outcome worse," he said.

Santoro noted that signs and symptoms of a heart attack include pressure or pain in the chest, arms, or neck; nausea; lightheadedness; sweating or feeling clammy; or unusual fatigue.

"Any unusual exertion from shoveling snow can cause severe back pain for those with healthy and bad backs," he added.

Santoro recommends the following tips to prevent lower back injury which is the most frequent cause of lost work days:

- When lifting heavy snow, don't bend over from the waist. Instead, keep your back straight and bent.
  - When pushing snow or slush out of the way, bend your knees.
  - Pace yourself. You can get more accomplished with less chance of injury if you take smaller shovelsful and do more of them instead of taking large scoops and tiring yourself out right away.
  - Stop periodically when you feel the need to rest.
  - Drink plenty of water. It's important to replenish when you are perspiring.
  - Do some slow, gentle stretches (without bouncing) before and after shoveling to reduce risk of injury.
  - Remember to ask for help when you need it. Hire the youngster down the street to shovel for you or contract with a plow.
- "Be sure to watch out for signs of frostbite while shoveling in extremely cold weather," Santoro said.
- "The first signs of frostbite are a whitening of the skin, numbness, and a tingling feeling," he added.

### Agawam Unico & Unico Charities Pancake Breakfast with SANTA

**Sunday, Dec. 13th  
8:00 am - 12:00 noon**

**Italian Sporting Club  
Cooper St., Agawam**

**Donation \$3  
(children under 9 free)**

Tickets available at the door or call  
Sal Morassi @ 786-0177

## HAMPDEN COUNTY CHIROPRACTIC

**Dr. Tami Nelson  
Chiropractic Physician**



**850 Springfield Street  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030**

**786-4820**

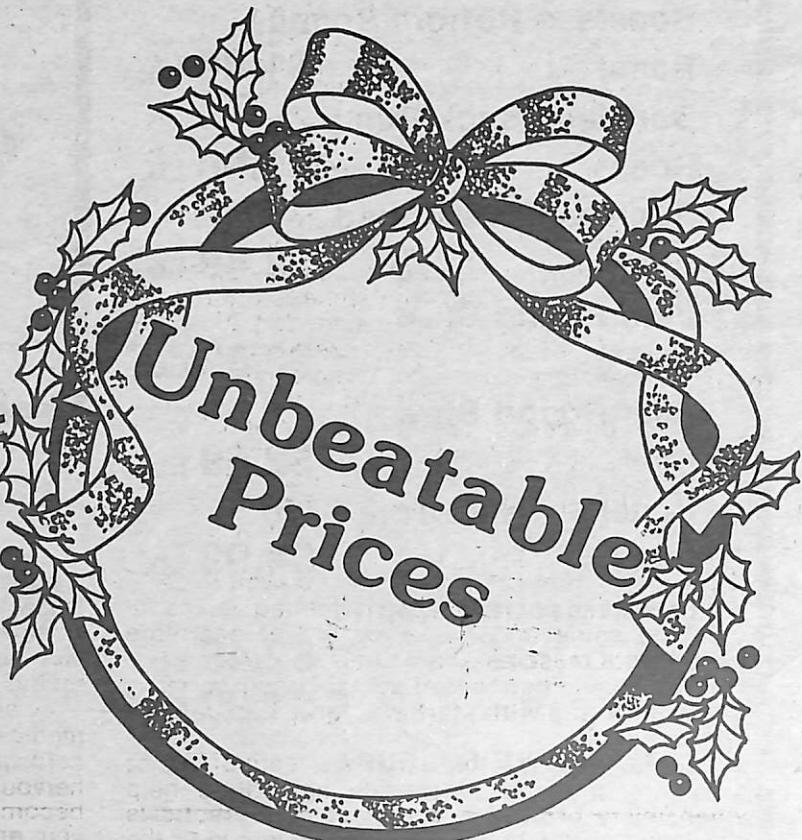


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**789-2940**

Free Layaway For Christmas



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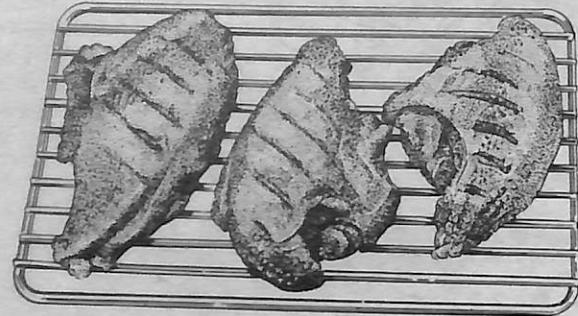
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# AGAWAM PUBLIC MARKET

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Boneless Bottom Round	
Roast	\$1.89 Lb.
Boneless Back Rump	
Roast	\$1.99 Lb.
Boneless Eye Round	
Roast	\$2.49 Lb.
Beef Round Cube	
Steak	\$2.89 Lb.
Beef Round Stew	
Beef	\$2.69 Lb.
Boneless New York Strip	
Steaks	\$4.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Round	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.49 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.



Grade "A" Skinless & Boneless	
Chicken Breast	\$2.69 Lb.
Fresh Ground	
Pork	\$1.39 Lb.
Zonin Italian Sausage (Hot Or Sweet)	\$1.99 Lb.
Whole Butt	
Tenderloins	\$5.99 Lb.
Frozen Hamburg Patties (5 Lb. Box - 25 Patties)	\$8.99

Tuesday &  
Wednesday  
**SPECIALS**

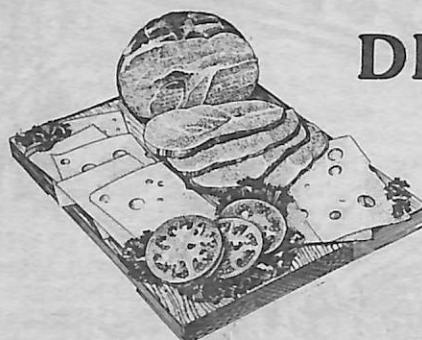
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## For Your Health - continued...

### Support Groups, Courses, And Programs At Noble

#### SUPPORT GROUPS

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** Sunday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield.

Free of charge. All are welcome.

**Stroke Support Group:** Wednesday, December 23rd, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke and their support persons.

A holiday celebration for Stroke Support Group members will be held at this meeting, which will be facilitated by Barbara Boulanger, M.S.W., L.I.C.S.W.

**Diabetes:** Tuesday, December 22nd, 1:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals suffering from diabetes and their support persons.

A holiday celebration for Diabetes Support Group members will be held at this meeting, which will be facilitated by Gail O'Hara, R.N., C.D.E., Certified Diabetes Instructor.

#### COURSES/CLINICS/PROGRAMS:

**Free Athletic Injury Clinic:** Thursday, December 17th, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. At Noble Hospital's Sports & Rehabilitation Center, 76 Main Street, Westfield.

During this clinic (which is held on the first, third, and fifth Thursdays of every month), athletic injuries are evaluated by a certified athletic trainer and, based upon the evaluation, remedial exercises or physician referral may be recommended.

For an appointment, call 562-3522.

**Diseases of the Esophagus:** Wednesday, December 16th, 6:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

This lecture with Dr. Ferdauz N. Canteenwalla is free of charge. However, seating is limited and advance registration is required.

To register, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at (413) 568-2328.

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#### Heel Spurs/Plantar Fascitis

Chronically painful feet are hard to ignore and sometimes hard to return to a pain-free state. Plantar fascitis is an inflammation of the fascia on the bottom of the foot.

It is often considered the same as a heel spur. Some factors which cause these conditions are: excessive standing; unpadded shoes on hard ground; poor shoes; repetitive stress; diets low in vitamin C; a change or increase in activities; being overweight; age-related shrinkage of the heel fat pad; an injury.

Bad shoes are those that have poor or no arch support, do not have a raised heel; are worn out, do not bend at the ball of the foot, or do not have any cushioning and are worn on a hard surface.

The symptoms of plantar fascitis and heel spurs are: pain in the front and bottom of the heel; mild or debilitating pain; lasts few months or a lifetime; can go away by itself, then return in a few weeks or months.

If you have heel pain at the inside, front, and bottom of your heel, especially if it is in the morning or after sitting a long time, then you probably have plantar fascitis. The pain often increases with more walking and standing.

Treatment for plantar fascitis and heel spurs in-

#### Cancer Support Group To Meet At Mercy On Monday Evenings

Persons with cancer, their families, and friends are invited to attend Mercy Hospital's Cancer Support Group. Meetings are conducted Mondays, 7:00 p.m., in the Deliso Conference Center, and are free of charge.

The group offers information on topics of interest to cancer patients, and provides an opportunity to share experiences in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Meetings are facilitated by Sr. Madeleine Joy, S.P., of Mercy's Pastoral Care Department.

For more information, call the Pastoral Care Department, (413) 748-9453.

**Check our classifieds each week...**

cludes gentle stretching of the calf muscles, decreasing or changing activities, losing weight, better fitting shoes (with an arch support and raised heel), shoe inserts that have a good arch support, heel pads, applying ice for five (5) minutes after activities, anti-inflammatory medications (aspirin, ibuprofen).

Many sufferers do well with Birkenstock sandals when constant foot pain is present that is caused by inflammation. To reduce the inflammatory process, keep the foot raised above the heart and/or compressed by wrapping the foot with ace bandages after long periods of being on the feet. Trying to "walk through or ignore the pain" can make a mild case much worse.

Home care routines include:

1. Decrease activity or switch to exercises that keep the weight off the feet, like stationary bike riding or swimming. Avoid or modify anything that can increase the pain. Be patient, it can take months of reduced activity. Increase activities slowly. Complete rest is not good either. Some activity is necessary for recovery.

2. Stretching is often recommended, although not usually if the plantar fascitis is due to an injury.

3. Taping can help protect the fascia and allow the patient to be able to walk.

4. Arch supports, certain shoes, or heel pads can help.

5. Ice immediately after activities or injury. Place ice on a towel, step on it, and roll it under the feet for five minutes. Repeat every hour until bedtime.

6. Massage in the morning and evening. Healthy feet need to be taken care of. Keep your body and feet happy and healthy this season.

If you have any questions regarding foot pain, please call our office. Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.

#### Mercy Hospital Has Bereavement Support Group

Persons who have experienced the death of a partner are invited to attend the next meeting of Mercy Hospital's bereavement support group, Saturday, December 19th.

The "Being Alone" group will meet from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, in the hospital's Deliso Conference Center. Sr. Madeleine Joy, S.P., of Mercy's Pastoral Care Department, facilitates the free meetings, which focus on issues of grief, mourning, and recovery.

Registration is required; for more information, call (413) 748-9453.

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**Lecture**  
with Dr. Ferdauz N. Canteenwalla

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**6:00 p.m.**  
**Conference Room A**  
**Noble Hospital**

**This lecture is free of charge.**  
Seating is limited and advance registration is required.  
To register, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at  
**413-568-2328**

**NOBLE HOSPITAL**  
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## Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell  
Registered Dietician

### Tips To Stop Holiday Weight Gain

It begins on October 31st and ends on January 1st. After all the Halloween candy corn has been devoured, the last piece of Thanksgiving pumpkin pie is dished up, and the final handful of red and green M&M's get munched down, the average American has gained seven pounds. Picture seven extra pounds like 28 sticks of fatty butter pasted to your waistline.

If you're the hostess this holiday season, you can help your guests eat, drink, and be merry and maintain their weight. Follow these six tips for healthier holidays.

\* Serve light but festive appetizers like shrimp with cocktail sauce, a bell-shaped platter of fresh sliced fruit, or a wreath of fresh vegetables and dip. Just one handful of peanuts has 200 calories and 17 grams of fat.

\* Stock the bar with some non-alcoholic beverages. Just one imported beer or eight ounces of wine contain 250 calories. Quench your thirst with sparkling water plus a splash of cranberry juice.

\* Base the meal on colorful vegetables; carrots, squash, beets, green beans, and potatoes. Top vegetables with lowfat sauces. Make "cream" sauces with skim evaporated milk. Skim the fat off gravy by simply tossing some ice cubes into droppings. In five minutes, the fat will gel and adhere to the ice cubes. Use a slotted spoon to pick out the cubes and the fat.

\* Make the entree simple and elegant roasts instead of casseroles. Most casseroles with ground meats and sauces are chock full of fat and calories. An average slice of lasagna fills you with 56 grams of fat. A three-ounce slice of roast turkey breast, lean pork roast, or roast beef averages just 150 calories and four grams of fat.

\* End the meal with just one decadent dessert. A buffet supplied with an assortment of cookies, cakes, and pies entices guests to try a little of everything. A single festive dessert can leave guests satisfied and comfortable, not stuffed and ready for a nap.

\* Plan activities to entertain guests. Don't rely on food as the only entertainment. Your family will long remember the fun from holidays when you play Pictionary, Bingo, walked in the snow, or sang carols. Take the focus off eating all day and your guests will have more energy to enjoy a healthy holiday.

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association.

### — ADVERTISER NEWS —

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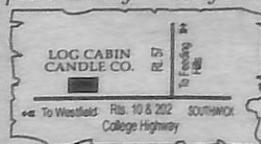
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From Western Mass. Safe Kids Coalition...

## Please Keep Kitchen Safety In Mind When You're Cooking Holiday Treats This Season

Whether decorating cookies or stirring gravy over a stovetop, children need close adult supervision in and around the kitchen during the holidays and every day, warns the Western Massachusetts Safe Kids Coalition headquartered at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital.

"It's very easy to become caught up in the holiday festivities and doing things as a family," said Shirley LaRoche, R.N., coordinator of the local chapter of SAFE KIDS.

"Helping out with cooking can be a wonderful learning experience for children, but it also can be dangerous," she added.

The Western Massachusetts SAFE KIDS Coalition recommends the following tips for keeping children safe as they learn to help out in the kitchen this holiday season.

- Be sure you've taken essential safety steps before introducing a child to cooking, such as having a fire extinguisher nearby and posting emergency numbers near the phone.

- Never leave a child unattended in the kitchen.
- Never hold a child while cooking.
- Put pans on back burners and turn all pot handles toward the back of the stove.

- Use caution when heating food and liquids in the microwave. Supervise your child when he or she is near or using a microwave and never let a young child (under ages 10 to 12) remove heated items from the microwave.

- Make sure you and your children wear close-fitting clothing when cooking. Never leave cooking food unattended - it is the number one cause of house fires.

- Place hot foods and liquids away from edges of counters and tables.

- Pay particular attention to items sitting on tablecloths or placemats so that children cannot pull hot food or liquid down and scald themselves.

- Unplug appliance cords and keep them tied up and out of children's reach.

#### Age-Appropriate Tasks for Children

Since each child is different, it is important for parents and caregivers to consider the development level and abilities of their children when assigning them kitchen duties.

Generally, children under age 10 don't fully understand what danger means and, therefore, should not use the stove, electrical appliances, sharp utensils, or handle hot dishes. Younger children can begin helping in the kitchen with basics like washing vegetables and fruits, or mixing foods that don't require sharp knives, appliances, or heat.

The Western Massachusetts SAFE KIDS Coalition headquartered at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital recommends that parents review the following suggested activities and age guidelines to help keep the kitchen a fun, safe place for the family. With close adult supervision children:

Over age five (5) can:

- Stir ingredients together in a bowl.
- Rinse foods under cold water.
- Use a cookie cutter to cut out shapes in dough.
- Use a butter knife or plastic knife to spread peanut butter, or slice soft cheese.
- Squeeze garlic from a garlic press.

Over age 10 can:

- Use electrical kitchen appliances such as a blender, food processor, electric mixer, microwave, or toaster oven.

Age 12 and up can:

- Chop or slice with a paring knife.
- Use the stovetop to turn burners on and off and select oven temperature.
- Flip pancakes on a hot griddle.
- Place a tray of cookies in the oven.
- Peel vegetables.
- Use an electric can opener.
- Shred cheese with a hand grater.

Children over age 14 can take on more responsibility in the kitchen and can handle tasks such as:

- Operating the stovetop without adult supervision.
- Draining cooked spaghetti into a colander.
- Removing a tray of cookies from the oven.

For more information about child safety, call LaRoche in the SAFE KIDS office at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital at 794-5434.

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## For Your Health - continued...



RICHIE MITNICK OF "Sounds of Music" provided the entertainment for the "Heart Smart Holiday Dinner" at the Polish American Club. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## "Heart Smart Holiday Dinner" At Polish Club

Sixty-five people attended a *Heart Smart Holiday Dinner*, sponsored by Noble Hospital's Cardiac Rehab Department, at the Agawam Polish American Club on Wednesday, November 18th.

Entertainment was provided by Richie Mitnick from "Sounds of Music."

Dr. Reed Shrider, a Board Certified Cardiologist, Tricia Porter, R.N., B.S.N., the Director of Cardiac Rehab, and Lynne Jasak, M.S., R.D., a Registered Dietician, all from Noble Hospital, were all available for questions throughout the evening.

Participants enjoyed a *Heart Smart Holiday Dinner* of a mixed green salad with fat-free roasted garlic balsamic vinaigrette dressing, honey apple glazed turkey with tropical fruit salsa, wild rice stuffed acorn squash, green beans almandine, and low-fat pumpkin cheesecake for dessert.

*Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!*

\*\*\*\*\*



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SPONSORED BY NOBLE HOSPITAL'S Cardiac Rehab Department, a "Heart Smart Holiday Dinner" was held at the Polish American Club on Wednesday, November 18th. From left to right: Ruth O'Connor, Joan Strycharz, Lynne Jasak, Tricia Porter, Sean Leary, and Mark Peltier. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ENJOYING THEMSELVES AT THE "Heart Smart Holiday Dinner" (from left to right): Will Fairlie, Sheila Longley, Liz Fairlie, and Ron Longley. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



## Ambrogio's Bakery

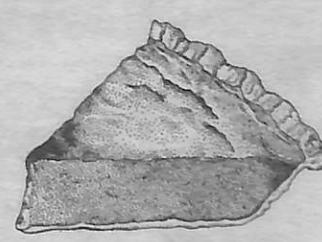
### \* Orders being accepted for the Holidays

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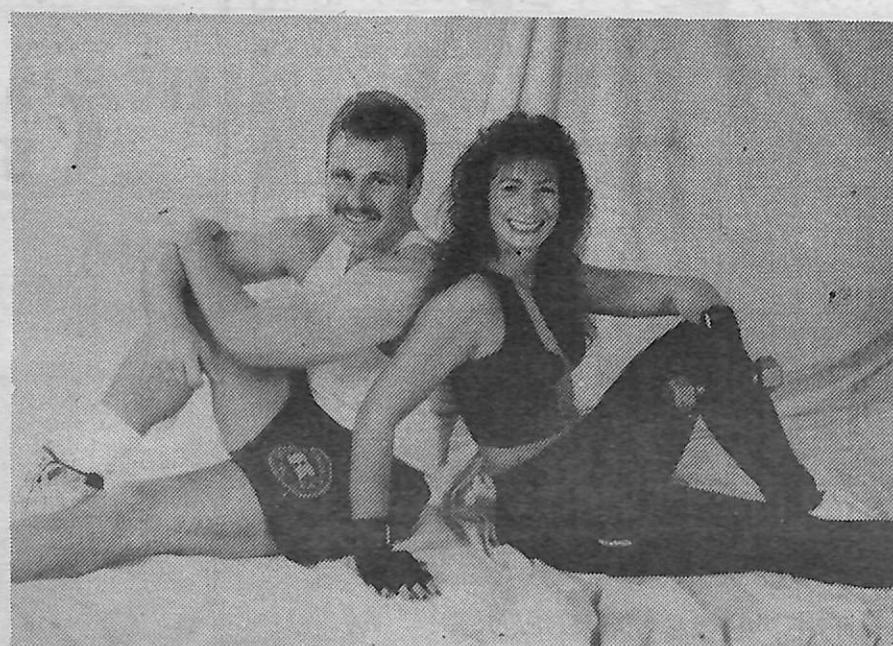


Give a gift certificate to a friend or join yourself!

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# Arts

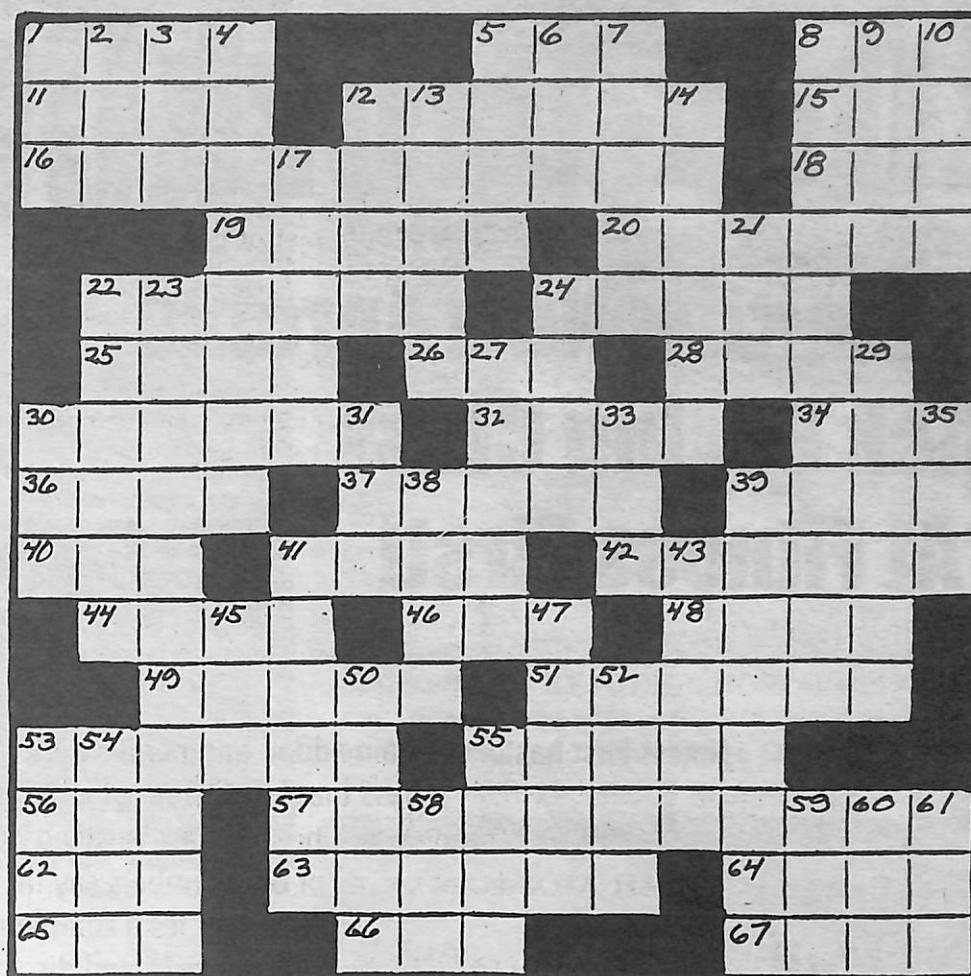
**ACROSS**

- 1 Makes an offer
- 5 One of the maths (abbr.)
- 8 Cloth scrap
- 11 Urgent shipping instructions
- 12 Climb
- 15 Eggs (Latin)
- 16 "The Yellow ——" (Dallas flower?)
- 18 Drunkard
- 19 Pilasters
- 20 Be discontented
- 22 Place into custody
- 24 Ms. Lauder
- 25 Robin Cook title
- 26 Building addition
- 28 Name for a dog
- 30 "— part of the game"
- 32 Roof overhang
- 34 A Gershwin (abbr.)
- 36 Horse of a different color
- 37 Man from Muscat
- 39 Alumni
- 40 Arrival for short
- 41 Willie of baseball
- 42 Polite response
- 44 Auld lang follower
- 46 Tiger's prop
- 48 Wave (heraldic)
- 49 Mess up
- 51 Feldman and Robbins
- 53 Sound system
- 55 Drive off
- 56 "Not — rule"
- 57 Attar
- 62 Flit around
- 63 Shake follower
- 64 Egg (Fr.)
- 65 Hospital hot spots
- 66 Morose
- 67 Bird beaks

**DOWN**

- 1 Forbid entrance
- 2 Prefix for bar
- 3 "— Kapital"
- 4 Warrior of the past
- 5 High cards
- 6 Actor Barker
- 7 Wood knots
- 8 Sweet girl of song
- 9 The Bard's river
- 10 Money taken in (colloq.)
- 12 Ships' sterns
- 13 Aver
- 14 Sleeping sickness fly
- 17 Ryan or Tatum
- 21 Zip or vigor
- 22 Cast members

## Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



- 23 Items used in prayer
- 24 Verve
- 27 Rent out
- 29 Pokes fun at
- 30 George's brother
- 31 Mauna —
- 33 Limo user
- 35 Poem of yore
- 38 More fiction than fact
- 39 "— My Mind" (song)
- 41 Curbside slots?
- 43 Entices
- 45 Neither's partner
- 47 Arabian ruler
- 50 Hen houses
- 52 Church area
- 53 Wise one
- 54 Ivan was one
- 55 Peruse
- 58 Coral or Dead
- 59 Formerly named
- 60 Wrigley Field player
- 61 Between E and G

### Last Week's Solution...

AMPI'S	ROMP	STUD
SOUP	EVIL	TETON
ANTA	PARE	AMANA
PATRIOT	DOLPHIN	
TOLET	LET	
SCRawl	REDRESS	
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AMIR	ARON	TITTER
STOPSON	EATERS	
ORT	SARGE	
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Dick Mastroianni's "Meet The Master" is a weekly feature of The Agawam Advertiser News and is just one more reason why you turn our pages every week.

\* \* \*

## "Christmas Cabaret" To Be Presented By The Hilltop Players

"Twas The Night - A Christmas Cabaret" will be presented by The Hilltop Players at The Red Door Theatre in Feeding Hills, MA on Friday, December 11th and Saturday, December 12th at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 13th at 2:00 p.m.

Audiences will be treated to a collection of Yuletide music, dance, and comedy as well as a premiere performance of the one-act "The Strike Before Christmas" written by Nicholas Duquette.

The intimate, award-winning theatre will be decorated for the holidays with candlelit tables for parties from two to eight and refreshments may be brought in or purchased from the refreshment bar.

The cast of 18 is made up of many STAGE and Hilltop Player veterans, including co-directors Margie Secora and Lyle Pearson, who operate the theatre year-round. Other cast members consist of mother/daughter teams Darcy and Megan Banks, and Marilene, Morgan, and Dana Allen.

Brothers Nick and Doug Duquette joins sisters Nicole and Alexandra Messmer and the Lewatowicz girls, Kati, Kristyn, and Kara. Greg Weld, Scott Belisle, Alex Kane, and Jean Latif all make a return appearance after performing in the Players' fall show, "Carnival."

Margy Secora will join the troupe once again as rehearsals and show accompanist.

The evening will be filled with many Christmas favorites from "Carol of the Bells" to "Nuttin for Christmas" and includes, by popular demand, Rudolph and the Dancing Reindeer "hoofing" their way through "Sleigh Ride."

Duquette's one-act "The Strike Before Christmas" tells the story of the time Santa's reindeer decide to go on strike for better feed. Santa's dilemma of how to deliver presents in a sleigh with no "deer" power is matched only by the reindeer's predicament of how to escape the clutches of dogcatcher Louie!

It's a race against time to solve this Christmas crisis in this hilarious holiday play which marks the playwriting debut of Nicholas Duquette, a former resident of Agawam and actor/counselor to STAGE drama camps.

Tickets for "Twas The Night" are \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children under 12, and may be reserved by calling (413) 789-2026.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

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## Theater Project Slates Auditions For "Leader Of The Pack"

Auditions will be conducted for the opening Theater Project production, *Leader of the Pack: The Ellie Greenwich Musical*, according to Producing Director Danny Eaton.

Performers will be able to audition at the Majestic Theater, the Pioneer Valley's only full-time theater, in West Springfield on Sunday, December 20th.

Roles are available for male and female singers, dancers, and musicians. Participants are requested to bring a tape and be prepared to sing at the auditions, which will be conducted by appointment only beginning at 1:00 p.m. To schedule an appointment, performers must call the Theater Project at (413) 747-7797.

Eaton will direct the play, and Stephen Makowski will handle the musical direction. Choreography will be staged by Lisa Moscow, and Ilene Goldstein will design the costumes. *Leader of the Pack* will run April 22nd through May 22nd. Tickets range from \$12.50 to \$21 depending on the time of the performance, and are available by calling the box office at (413) 747-7797 during operational hours, which are Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 2:00-5:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 4:00-8:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

*Leader of the Pack* is based on the life story of celebrated songwriter Ellie Greenwich, whose compositions include *Be My Baby*, *Da Do Ron Ron*, *And Then He Kissed Me*, and *Chapel of Love*, in addition to the title tune.

The musical will close the Theater Project's second full season at the restored Majestic Theater in West Springfield. According to Eaton, there is already audience participation for the play, which he says "is bound to appeal to the many fans of our previous production, *The Buddy Holly Story*, as well as build a following of its own."

## Julie Warchol To Perform In Upcoming "Nutcracker" Show

Lisa Baldyga of Dance Arts in Westfield is pleased to announce that 21 ballet students from her studio have successfully auditioned for children's roles in the Albany Berkshire Ballet's "Nutcracker," which will be performed at Symphony Hall in Springfield on December 18th at 7:00 p.m., and December 19th at 1:00 and 4:30 p.m.

Among her students is Julie Warchol of Agawam, who will be portraying one of the Angels who will welcome the character of Clara to the Land of Sweets.

The Dance Arts students practice at American International College in Springfield every Sunday with other area dance students, under the direction of Nancy Pierce of the Albany Berkshire Ballet, in order to bring this beloved holiday classic to Springfield area audiences.

## ADVERTISER NEWS



HEATHER SARAH ADAMS

## Heather S. Adams To Appear In Pioneer Valley's "Nutcracker"

Heather Sarah Adams, a seventh-grader at Agawam Junior High School, will be appearing in the Pioneer Valley production of "The Nutcracker" at the Academy of Music in Northampton on Sunday, December 13th, in two performances.

This will be her fourth year in this production. She studies ballet and modern at the new Dance Conservatory in East Longmeadow. Heather has been dancing for 10 years.

## Audition Dates Changed For Westfield Theatre Guild's Upcoming "Camelot"

The Westfield Theatre Group, a department of the Westfield Woman's Club, has announced new audition dates for its 1999 spring musical, "Camelot," to be directed by Bob Laviolette with musical direction by David Kidwell.

Auditions will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 15th and 16th, at the Westfield Woman's Club, 28 Court Street,

## "Early Childhood STEP" Program At The Agawam Library

One of the nation's most popular parent education programs, *Early Childhood STEP - Systematic Training for Effective Parenting of Children Under Six*, will be offered at the Agawam Public Library.

Sessions will begin on Thursday, January 14, 1999 and will continue for six weeks on Thursday nights from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Each session will consist of presentation of a topic to be followed by discussion and refreshments.

*Early Childhood STEP* is designed especially for parents whose children are newborn through age five. According to the program's authors, its objective is to help parents gain parenting skills, understand children's behavior, and build self-esteem, communication, and healthy family relationships.

Among the topics to be explored during the program, six sessions are:

- how a child's personality, social skills, belief systems, and lifestyle develop as the child grows from baby to toddler to preschooler
- misbehavior - what it is, and what it is not
- how to recognize the purpose of a child's misbehavior and deal with it
- why rewards and punishment don't work - and what does
- how to encourage cooperation, communication, social skills, self-esteem
- ways to handle crying, temper tantrums, toilet training, lying, jealousy, and public misbehavior.

The presentation of this program is funded by the Community Partnership for Children Grant. This program is open to all residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills. Registration is limited, and may be done in person or by calling the library at 789-1550.

## Greeting Card Program For Kids At The Agawam Library

Agawam and Feeding Hills residents aged four and up are invited to the library on Thursday, December 17th, from 4:00-5:00 p.m., to design and create handmade greeting cards for family and friends.

We'll have Hanukkah and Christmas decorations available, along with other craft materials. REGISTER BY CALLING 789-1550, OR VISITING THE LIBRARY.

Westfield. There are lead and chorus roles available for ages 16 and up.

Anyone auditioning should be prepared to sing a short piece and read from the script. Rehearsals will begin in late January, with the show dates scheduled for April.

Questions may be directed to the Westfield Theatre Group at 572-6838.

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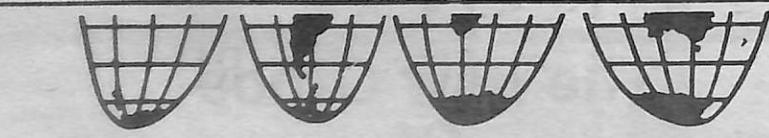
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## Education

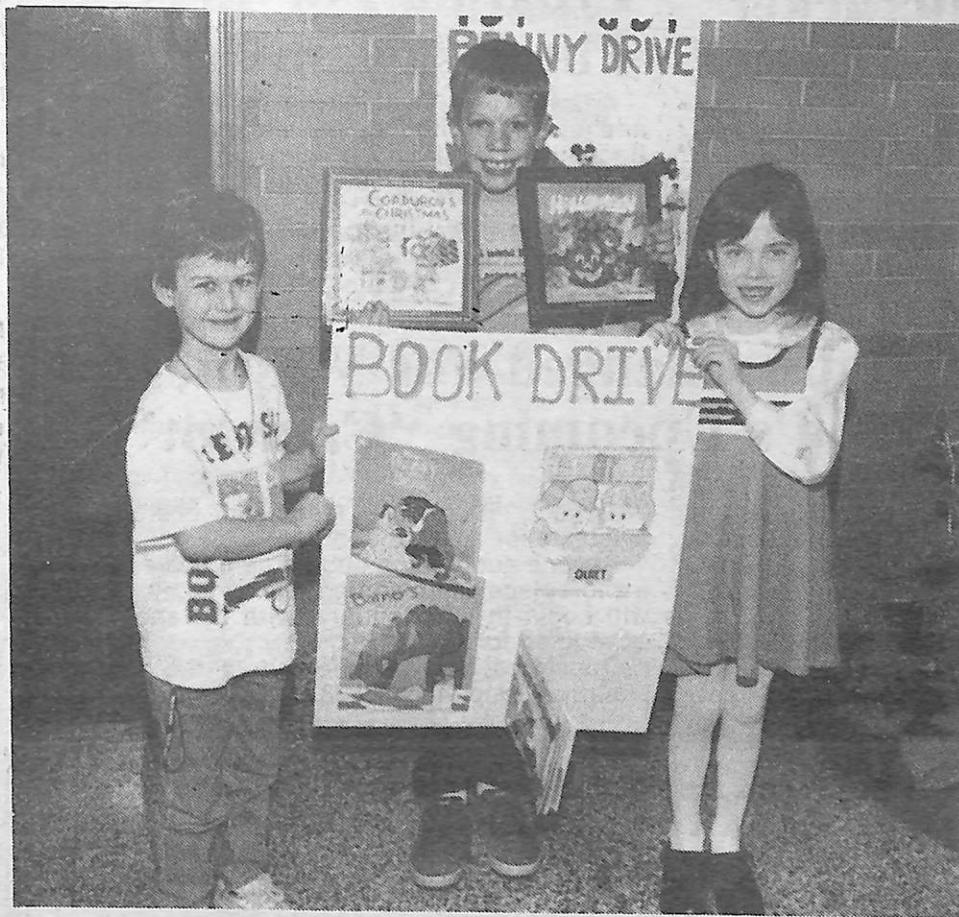
### Third Annual Month Of Giving At Phelps School



**WEEK ONE** (November 16th-20th): A "Penny Drive" was held to donate the proceeds to Toy for Joy. Each classroom filled bottles with pennies, collecting a record high \$902.88. From left to right: Alyssa Styckiewicz, Meaghan Serra, and Stephen Teixeira. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



**WEEK TWO** (November 23rd-25th): A "Food Drive" was held to donate items to the Open Pantry. After all the packing was done, the children collected more than 20 boxes of food. From left to right: Danny Anderson, Andrea Braccialarghe, and Shaunna Howe. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



**WEEK THREE** (November 30th-December 4th): A "Book Drive" was held to donate new children's books to the Open Pantry. Children collected more than 30 boxes of books. From left to right: Andy Moffatt, Ryan Sullivan, and Katherine Stanton. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



**WEEK FOUR** (December 7th-11th): A special "Mitten Tree" was created to collect donations of new hats, mittens, and scarves. These will be given to a local women's shelter in our area in time for Christmas. From left to right: Adam Howe, Brett Longhi, and Frank Liberti. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



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# Agawam High School's Term One HONOR ROLL

## GRADE 12

Daniel Balbony, Diane Balicki, Michelle Beaudette, Pia Bertone-Gross, Erik Bodurtha, Franca Bonavita, Kimberly Bosini, Danielle Bourdeau, Jessica Lynn Briotta, Joni Beth Brodeur, Amy Champagne, Andrew Charko, Brooke Chichakly, Andrea Cizek, Glenn Corlett, Kelly Corritis, Melissa Cote.

Melissa Crough, Danielle Deforge, Charles Denison, Ann Marie Dimauro, David Federico, Jason Flood, Jennifer Gates, Matthew Gomes, Angela Gontczaruk, Jasjit Gotra, Christina Gregory, Jason Grimaldi, Erin Hanley, Brian Howes, Heather Marie Hughes, Alison Jackobek, Gregory Jubinville, Evan Konopka, Anthony Kosinski, Justin Kratovil, Paul LaBarre.

Sean Lavin, Gina Leclair, Robert Liard, Jennifer Loomis, Ondrej Lukes, Yuri Lukin, Brian Machos, Barbara Maloni, Martha Manning, Diana Marsh, Lisa Marsh, Kevin Mattson, Jennifer McGuire, April McLain, Jessica Montagna, Holly Moren, Leila Mouneimneh, Kornelia Moysis, Shequela Mungin, Sarah Nacewicz, Jennifer Niedziela, Ronald Ogulewicz.

Jamie Pavelcsyk, Roberta Przybyla, Andrew Radwanski, Patrick Renna, Nikita Reshamwala, Crystal Rivers, Brian Rondeau, Christopher Rousseau, Jillian Lee Rouvellat, Leanne Ryan, Sarah Ryder, Mario Santillo, Alicyn Siano, Aaron Skowyra, David Strole, Emily Tampone, Joyce-Ann Tedone, Laura Tenerowicz, David Thomas, Kara Tierney, Theresa Wesley, Melissa Williams, Robert Wray, Patricia Zerra.

## GRADE 11

Elise Alfano, Stephen Antaya, Heidi Baran, Sheri Benton, Shawn Biebel, John-Paul Bitgood, Brandon Blackjack, James Borowiec, Neil Butler, Laura Charest, Katherine Chmura, Tracy Ciak, Terri Cimma, Elizabeth Coelho, Dianna DiStefano, Adrienne Dufresne, Mary-Elizabeth Dupelle, Stephen Ferreira.

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## GRADE 9

Lissa Asta-Ferrero, Claire Belden, Amanda Blair, Eric Bland, Jamie Borkosky, Amanda Brown, Palmarina Capaccio, Rachel Caruso, Kelly Cassidy, Erin Corbin, Matthew Couture, Renee Couture, Robert Cullen, Danya Decoteau, Kathleen Demetrian, Eliza Dickmann, Caira Dominguez, Kara Dominick, Scott Drenzek, Katie Dubay, David John Dupre, Ronald Dutton.

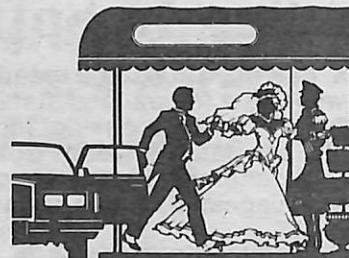
Kyleigh Egan, Kathryn Feato, Bryan Ghedi, Kara Gilhooly, Erinn Gloster, Hilary Marie Golas, Alyssa Goodrow, Elizabeth Gottardi, Joanna Theresa Graveline, Anthony Grimaldi, Jennifer Grimaldi, Sarah Hamel, Eric Hastings, Andrew Huffman, Christine Jack, Erin Jackson, Nicole Jensen, Melissa Jubinville, Jennifer Jutte.

Michael Kelly, Sakhonh Kheuamun, Melissa King, Brian Knight, Joseph Kocot, Kimberly Landry, Jillian Lawson, Jacqueline Legrand, Joshua Lewin, Anna Liquori, John Lynch, Denis Marchetto, Desiree Marsili, Joshua Martel, Matthew McGrath, Brian McGuire, Brian Michel, Kristina Midura, Adrian Misiak, Stephen Nascimbeni, Daniel Neary, Alyson Nowell, Courtney Nowill.

Elizabeth Perry, Shawn Poirier, Justin Robichaud, April Rondeau, Adam Rovithis, Jessica Roy, Paul Ruccio, Stephanie Sadowski, Larry Scafuri, Christopher Seymour, Jenna Shea, Maureen Skehan, Alyson Skok, Kevin Sliech, Stephanie Smith, Kari Trauschke, Sara Tremblay, Marc Tully, Steven Turner, Paul Versace, Nicholas Voids, Danielle Welner, Krista Wheeler, Ryan Witherell, Carrie Yon, Lucy Emma Young.

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## Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, December 14th:** Steamed frankfurts in roll, New England baked beans, seasoned green and wax beans, fresh Mac apple, milk.

**Tuesday, December 15th:** Oven-baked chicken nuggets with honey, whipped potatoes, seasoned peas and carrots, bread & butter, chocolate cake with icing, milk.

**Wednesday, December 16th:** Cheeseburgers in roll, steamed parsley rice, seasoned mixed vegetables, apple crisp, milk.

**Thursday, December 17th:** Roast turkey with gravy in whipped potatoes, seasoned peas and carrots, dinner roll, chocolate pudding with topping, milk.

**Friday, December 18th:** Oven-baked sea nuggets, potato rounds with catsup, niblet corn, bread & butter, ice cream cup, milk.

(Tickets may be purchased on Monday in the elementary schools for the week. Meal price is \$1.10 daily. If paying by check, make check out to "Agawam School Lunch.")

## Ag. Middle School Counselor's News

by Thomas F. Dacey  
Middle School Counselor

The fall intramural sports program has recently been completed at the Middle School. During this after-school activity, competition was among homerooms. The fifth grade students played soccer, and the sixth graders played flag football.

Room 203 was the champion for the fifth grade, and Room 301 was the sixth grade winner.

\*\*\*

In the area of study skills, the fifth graders are in phase three of the program, which concentrates on improving their test-taking skills. The students will be watching a video on test-taking skills and will be discussing such topics as preparing for tests, following directions, and memory techniques. The students will complete a study sheet on test-taking skills, which they will be allowed to keep and bring home.

\*\*\*

The counselor wishes to alert parents that progress reports for poor academic progress and other problems during the second marking period will be issued on or about December 18th. The parents of students who receive a progress report are urged to address any problems before report card time comes around.

It is wise for students to have a designated time slot to work on homework each night. They should have a study area which is quiet and free from distractions. Parents can check assignments by requesting that the student's agenda book be brought home every night.

## Parents Attend "Special Ed" Meeting In Spfld.

Last week, parents attended a meeting held in Springfield where the federal and state offices of "Special Education" were asking for feedback from educators and parents. Issues from Agawam as well as surrounding cities and towns were noted. It was suggested that Agawam parents form a PAC.

PAC (Parents Advisory Council) is offered to parents of children with "special needs." Duties include advising the School Committee, administrators, and educators on matters that pertain to education, health, and safety of students of "special needs."

As discussed at our last meeting with Dr. Brosnan and Mr. Zabielski, Agawam has not had a "PAC" for several years and that there is clearly a need. Dr. Brosnan has offered his full support.

Parents in this community need to advocate for their children and the only way this can be done is to "get informed!" We need to share our experiences, access information, and support one another to help our children reach their highest potential.

Many minds working together will make a difference. Watch for information on the upcoming meeting in January.

## Agawam Junior High School's Term One HONOR ROLL

### GRADE 7

Alexander Alvanos, Brian Athas, Joseph Beaulieu, Kelly Borkosky, Danielle Borsari, Kevin Bosini, Katherine Bousquet, Jason Briotta, Amanda Bruno, Tami Burmeister, Kristin Bushey, Lianne Castellanos, Patrick Coffey, Sara Cote, Elizabeth Couture, Aaron D'Amario, Michael Davis, Christine Dettman.

Erica Dominguez, Neil Donah, David Donahue, Sara Dorans, Angela Dzhenzherukha, Meghan Ennis, Casey Federico, Marc Ferretti, Michelle Figella, Malerie Gardner, Richard Gonyea, Thomas Gorman, Erinn Gormley, Anthony Grasseti, Nicholas Gumlaw, Amanda Hamel, Matthew Hayden, Kyle Henry, Kendall Hill.

Samantha Howe, Kevin Hsu, Sarah Huffman, Jenna Insero, Amanda Janik, Laura Jutte, Meghan Kelly, Katie Knodler, Daniel Korney, Jillian Kos, Kyle LaFontaine, Sara Landry, Jessica Lemieux, Thomas Light, Elizabeth Loughman, Amy Lownds, Dina Lukina, Nicholas Lyman, Michael Lynch.

Stephen Lynch, Tory Lyons, Ashley Macey, Joseph MacFadzen, Katie Malloy, Marc Maloney, Anthony Manzi, Daniel Mason, Kyle McGuire, Peter Midura, Pavlina Moysis, Elizabeth Mundo, Jeffrey Nielsen, Brianne Nicklaw, Katherine O'Connell, Courtney Ober, Kevin Olbrych, Andrew Oleksak.

Kristen Ott, Jillian Perry, Allison Peters, Eric Porth, Bethany Reid, Brenton Reveruzzi, Erin Richardson, Christopher Roos, Adam Roy, Nicole Roy, Christopher Royland, Anthony Rueli, Kristie Russo, Jeffrey Sabola, Brian Santos, Talia Scalise, Rebecca Siegler, Sara Skolnick.

Megan Smith, Kristen Sopet, Holly Stano, Angela Stork, Kyle Sullivan, Ryan Sullivan, Emily Sussman, Kevin Telford, Kasey Toto, Alissa Tully, Jessica Tully, Eva Udobina, Victoria Urrea, Robert Ventulett, Jessica Vermette, Angela Vinton, Michael Weinle, Christopher Werther, Mary Zajac, Douglas Zelisko.

### GRADE 8

Daniel Adamski, Kevin Athas, Joshua Aubin, Kevin Baptiste, Catherine Baum, Aimee Beaudette, Rebecca Berta, David Bienia, Maciej Biskup, Ashley Blanchard, Frank Bond, Paul Bonini, Kevin Borgatti, Laura Bovat, Sabrina Brizzolari, Whitney Brown, Sean P.F. Burke, Lindsay Carey, Rebecca Carey.

Alexis Chretien, Christin Cillimberg, Nicole Circosta-Aspinall, Danielle Cirillo, Heather Cox, Benjamin Crum, Kelly Curry, Gregory Curtis, Jenine Davignon, Christopher Davis, Michael Dombrowski, Kelly Doyle, Daniel Drewniak, Suzanne Dudley, Laura Duquette, Chad Farrington, Michael Ferrigno.

Patricia Fitchben, Kevin Fleming, Allyson Gavron, Nicole Gendreau, Daniel Gomes, Gunjan Gotra, Angilika Gover, Andrea Greaney, Kevin Grimaldi, Nicole Gutowski, Kaitlyn Haglund, Elizabeth Haire, Ian Hamlett, Eric Harris, Christopher Holl, Scott Howes, Jessica Hudson, Linda Kelley, Anna Kiforishina.

Christina Knodler, Nathan Krach, Jocelynn Kraus, Nicholas Krolicki, Michael Lalli, Patrick Landers, Emily Lapins, Justin Lepard, Alla Lukina, Da'veen Macsata, Jeremy Malanson, Christopher Malloy, Ashley Marek, Christopher Martin, Amanda Maynard, Christine McGavin, Michael McGeoghan.

Sean McKeever, Laura McNeish, Megan Mercadante, Vincent Moretti, Nina Murray, Corey O'Connor, Joscelyn Paulin, Jodie Pfau, Paul Pilegi, Courtney Poirier, Julie Pontz, Maureen Quinlan, Kelly Reilly, David Rosenberg, Amanda Rozanski, Cristen Sacco.

Gina Salimeri, Kaitlin Sardella, Jennifer Sharpe, Alexandra Simmons, Amanda Stork, Benjamin Sunny, Julie Surridge, Victoria Taylor, Brittany Theriaque, Sebastian Verelst, Cori Verteramo, Patrick Walsh, Cylyn Williams, Tara Witte, Andrew Wynne, Ryan Zaczynski, Laura Zerra.

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## Agawam Middle School's Term One HONOR ROLL

### GRADE 5

Artem Adzhigirey, Thomas Barnes, Justin Belden, Alexandra Bertagnoli, Crystal Bianco, Michael Blanchard, Christopher Blanchette, Kaitlyn Bonneville, Christina Borgatti, Gabrielle Brown, Sarah Bulmer, Brian Burke, Cameron Butova, Emily Cassidy, Bryant Cesan, Justin Chretien, Daniel Cirillo, Nicole Cirillo, Siearra Close.

Keeley Conte, Brian Costello, Laura Cote, Alycia Cove, Nicole Cristelli, Chantel Cuddeemi, Alison Dassatti, Lauren Davis, Andrea Desrosiers, Nicholas Dimaio, Alexis Michelle Dumas, Uche Ejesi, Brendan Ennis, Michelle Epaul, Nicole Frazier, Cassie Freeman, Alexander Friedrich, Tiara Ghedi, Sophie Gould, Sarah Henrikson, Aaron Hibbert, Alicia Holl.

Daniel Houle, Justin Howe, Jonathan Jordan, Heather Kauffman, Kristopher Kelly, Faith King, Elizabeth Klimczak, Johannah Kos, Alexandra Marie Kozak, Christine Kretschmar, Lindsie Lavin, Monica Lefebvre, Jessica Legein, Morgan Leos, John Leydon, Peter Longhi, Nicholas Lovotti, Erica Lyman.

Sarah MacFadzen, Michelle Macey, Angela Mancini, Kari Marceno, Danielle McCaslin, Joseph McDyer, Jonathan McGeoghan, Alan Mesick, Sarah Meyrick, Luca Mineo, Emil Nasti, Jonathan O'Brien, Jason Olbrych, Matthew Oleksak, Michael Ott, Alison Pariseau, Danielle Parks, Robert Paul, Nicole Payeur, Christin Peters, Christopher Phillips, Kara Powell, Erika Prouty.

Laura Provost, Caitlin Ranstrom, Kala Reid, Joseph Reutt, Nathan Rheault, Chelsea Rice, Kevin Roberts, Paige Roberts, Carlo Ronca, Steven Rosinski, Devin Ryan, Matthew Sabola, Lindsay Salvati, Scott Santinello, Alexander Smith.

David St. John, Jeffrey Stanton, Matthew Styckiewicz, Caitlin Sullivan, Erica Sullivan, Nicholas Tassone, Michael Theriault, Ashley Toyfair, Michael Uzar, Richard Walker, Julie Warchol, Alexandra Watt, Mari Weinandy, Ashley

Weisse, Matthew Werther, Peter Wierasz, Jason Wilson, Katelyn Yelinek, Matthew Zordani.

### GRADE 6

Catherine Andrews, Joseph B'Shara, Jeffrey Berselli, William Bertrand, Lynn Bovat, Barbara Brizzolari, Marianne Carter, Christine Cassidy, Michael Chmura, Jennifer Clark, Kevin Clark, Leah Cook, Adam Corbin, Kristina Craaybeek, Jamie Cullen, Joseph Deluca, John Delucchi, Nicholas Demetrian.

Michele Elsner, Kelly Follis, Joseph Fortunato, Courtney Garrett, Bethany Ellen Garvin, Scott Gates, Gina Gessay, Nadim Ghaname, Jonathan Gibbons, Danielle Glantz, Emily Gordon, Katie Gorman, Karyn Gottardi, Christopher Graveline, Gina Graziano, Seth Gregor, Cele Gridley, Kristan Heaton, Alexandra Ivey, Nicholas Jacks.

Susan Jenney, Stephanie Klebes, Benjamin Kochanowski, Joseph Koehler, Michael Landry, Bryan Lane, Jessica Lapointe, Zachary Lapponese, Lauren Liberti, Nathan Little, Tiffany Manzi, Bradford R. Martin III, Jenelle Masotti, Amanda McCabe, Joseph McCarthy, Joseph McGeoghan, Christopher McKenney, Ryan McLane, Jennifer Montagna, Seamus Moran.

Andrew Moriarty, Ashley Morris, Theodore Moysis, Daniel Murphy, Sophia Nasti, Eric Niedziela, Jaclyn O'Neill, Amy Osgood, Angela Pandolfi, Kirsten Patrick, Samantha Peetros, Kevin Pender, Nicholas Petrangelo, Kristen Pfau, Jessica Phillips, Sara Pioggia, Meagan Pokorny, Megan Quinlan, Eric Reiprich, Ashley Richards, Jennifer Sacco.

Matthew Sadowski, Maria Santaniello, Kurt Schebel, Noelle Serafino, Scott Settembro, Alex Shibley, Emily Siedlik, Brian Simpson, Anthony Sotolotto, Abriana Spagnoli, Jamie Spear, Alison Stanton, Nicole Struck, Ami Sullivan, Kelli Sullivan, Vanessa Tencati, Scott Thomas, Michael Thompson, Michael Toto, Douglas Alan Towse, Anthony Verteramo, Kylii Williams, Julie Wills, Nicole Woszczyna, David Zaffetti, Alyssa Zmaczynski.

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## Safe Kids Offers Tips For Parents & Sitters This Holiday Season

Before stepping out to a holiday party without the kids, be certain that the sitter you select shares your concerns for your child's safety.

"Parents believe that if a sitter is responsible, reliable, and affectionate towards children, the sitter will know how to avoid or handle a crisis situation," said Shirley LaRoche, R.N., coordinator, Western Massachusetts Safe Kids Coalition, headquartered at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital.

The most important part of any babysitting job, however, is keeping a child safe from harm, LaRoche noted. She recommends that you discuss with the prospective sitter the following concerns for your child's safety while in their care:

### INTERVIEWING THE BABYSITTER

- Is the sitter experienced and reliable?
- Does he or she have references?
- Did the sitter take a special "babysitter" training course?
- Is the sitter certified in infant and child cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)?
- Does the sitter know what to do in case of an emergency?

### WHAT EVERY PARENT SHOULD TELL THEIR SITTER

LaRoche recommends that you walk through the following with your sitter before leaving your child in the sitter's care:

- Give the babysitter a tour of your home. Point out the baby gates, child resistant locks, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, electrical outlet covers, toilet locks, and more. Show the sitter where the phones, fire extinguishers, first aid supplies, flashlight, and extra blankets are located in case of an emergency.
- Write down emergency numbers and leave them by all telephones.
- Map out the approved play areas in your house.
- Instruct your sitter to never leave your child alone - even for a minute.
- Plan and practice several fire escape routes from the house in the event of a fire, and identify an outside meeting place.

If you leave your child at a daycare center or at the sitter's home, make sure you review the information mentioned above as well as tour the facility or home beforehand. Check to see that the caregiver has taken precautions to "child-proof" his or her home or daycare site. Verify that the sitter is following state or local guidelines on the number of children the daycare provider can babysit.

"By taking the necessary precautions with your home and the babysitter, you can ensure a happy and safe new year for you and your family," noted LaRoche.

Baystate Medical Center offers a Babysitting Academy for young adults on the topics of baby care, first aid, fire safety, home security, accident prevention, CPR, and more. For information on the class, call 794-2299 (BABY).

For more information on Safe Kids, call LaRoche at 794-5434.

## ADVERTISER NEWS

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## Holiday Greetings

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The following "Thanksgiving Stories" were submitted by Mrs. Ann Drinkwine's second-grade class at Phelps School:

#### I AM THANKFUL

I am thankful for the pilgrims because they found our state. They landed on Plymouth Rock. They built houses. Then they met Squanto. Showed the pilgrims how to plant corn and he taught the pilgrims how to hunt deer. When they met Squanto they made friends. When all of the corn was tall they were going to celebrate because they had a lot of food. They had the first Thanksgiving.

Frank Sacco

#### THANKSGIVING

I am thankful for food, my teacher, and the Pilgrims and Indians. Thanksgiving is supposed to be a nice holiday. On Thanksgiving we always have a big feast. We have Thanksgiving because the Pilgrims and Indians wanted to celebrate. I love Thanksgiving.

Matthew Rannenberg

#### THANKSGIVING

I am thankful for my family because without them I would be lonely. I am thankful for my school. If I didn't have school I wouldn't know anything. I wouldn't know how to write and how to count. I am thankful for my sisters and cousins. I am thankful for my house because if I didn't have a house I would be so cold. I am thankful for my food and my Thanksgiving.

Alexandra Bonavita

#### THE FIRST THANKSGIVING

The first thing that happened was the Pilgrims came to a part of Massachusetts and they named it Plymouth. There were no houses and not too much food to eat. The Indians came and helped the Pilgrims and they had more to eat. They grew radishes, corn, cucumbers, and carrots. Also they had sea animals to eat. So the Pilgrims wanted to celebrate. They had a big feast and they wanted to call that feast Thanksgiving.

Michael Couinos

#### I AM THANKFUL

I am thankful for my family, my mom and dad, and sisters. I am thankful for our president and governor. I'm thankful for my state I live in. I am thankful for plants and animals. I am thankful for God and the food he made. I am thankful for the soldiers. I am thankful for the Pilgrims and Indians. I am thankful for my pets and other people. I am thankful for the world. I am thankful for many things.

Siobhan Keenan

#### THANKSGIVING

I'm thankful for the Pilgrims and Indians because they had the first Thanksgiving. The Pilgrims wanted to celebrate Thanksgiving. Their bad days were over. Today we still have a time we think about what we are thankful for. Thanksgiving is a festival. Thanksgiving is the time when we think about what we are thankful for. I don't celebrate Thanksgiving. What do you do for Thanksgiving?

Nitesh Sankalia

#### I AM THANKFUL

I am thankful for family. I am thankful for parents. I am thankful for sisters. I am thankful for pets. I am thankful for love. I am thankful for health. I am thankful for life. I am thankful for Pilgrims. I am thankful for Indians. And I am thankful for school. I am thankful for teachers. I am thankful for friends. I am thankful for clothes. I think about what I am thankful for on Thanksgiving.

Mackenzie Doyle

#### THE FIRST THANKSGIVING

I am thankful for the first Thanksgiving. The Mayflower was the Pilgrims' ship and about 112 people were on there. When they landed the Pilgrims started to make houses and gather food and wild plants. Then they saw an Indian who was named Squanto. He told the Pilgrims how to plant seeds and hunt food and find plants. Then the Pilgrims wanted to celebrate. Then the Pilgrims



AT PHELPS SCHOOL, Mrs. Ann Drinkwine's second-graders recently revealed what they are "thankful" for this season. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

and the Indians got lots of food. The first Thanksgiving took three days.

Daniel Masciotra

#### I AM THANKFUL

I am thankful for my family, my brother, my sister, and my father. I am thankful for my dog and cat and my Papa and Grandma's house. I am thankful for Earth and our country.

Jacob Kopyscinski

#### I AM THANKFUL

I am thankful for Thanksgiving and I am thankful for food and water. I'm thankful for my mom and dad and my brother, Billy. I'm thankful for love and life. I am thankful for school and teachers. I'm thankful for my home. I am thankful for the world. I am thankful for God. I am thankful for health. We are all thankful for each other.

Kerri Egan

#### MY THANKSGIVING

I am thankful for my family. I am thankful for my grandparents. I am thankful for my family because they are nice to me. I am thankful for my grandparents. I eat at my grandparents. We love Thanksgiving!

Tyler Alves

#### I AM THANKFUL FOR THANKSGIVING

There is a holiday called Thanksgiving. On Thanksgiving we are going to eat a yummy meal. People like to eat turkey. But that's OK because it tastes good. Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful. I am thankful for my friends. I am thankful for my family.

Nicole Proulx

#### HAPPY THANKSGIVING

I'm thankful for my family. I am thankful for my friends, too. The Pilgrims left from England in September in 1620. The ship was called the Mayflower. The ship was so small. The Pilgrims and Indians had the first Thanksgiving. So every fourth Thursday in November we celebrate Thanksgiving.

Brianne Brinkmann

#### I AM THANKFUL

I am thankful for my mom and dad and for my whole family. I am thankful for my teachers and Mr. Farrell, too. I am thankful for my house and everything I have. I am thankful for the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving.

Matthew LaFoe

#### THANKSGIVING

I like Thanksgiving a lot. I always get to see everybody in my family on Thanksgiving. It is really fun. We always have a big dinner. We always have turkey and gravy. We like to watch the parade before everybody comes. Thanksgiving is fun.

Elizabeth Macfadzen

#### THANKSGIVING

I am thankful for my family. I like Thanksgiving because I get to see my family. Thanksgiving is fun. I get to see my cousins, Patrick and Ben. It is fun playing with them. Thanksgiving is when we all get together. I eat turkey at my grandma's. I love Thanksgiving.

Brianna Kane

#### THANKFUL

I am thankful for my brothers. I am thankful for my brothers because I love them. If I am lonely one of them will come up to me and cheer me up.

Sometimes they are mean or nice. When they are nice they are active. They tell me jokes to cheer me up, too!

Allison Plante

#### I AM THANKFUL

I am thankful for my home and my mom and dad. School is fun and I am thankful for it and my teachers and my friends. Did you know that the Pilgrims left England in 1620? Did you know how the first Thanksgiving was started? I know. The first Thanksgiving was started like this. Pilgrims were so thankful that they had food they decided to have a feast. They invited their Indian friends. So that is how it started.

Laken Gendron

#### MY THANKSGIVING

I like Thanksgiving. I go to my grandma's house and my aunt's house. My aunt makes good food. She has three kids. We play and she calls us in to eat my two favorite foods. They are mashed potatoes and turkey. She makes the best food in the whole world. And I go to my grandma's house. That is my Thanksgiving.

Dylan Coulter

#### MY THANKSGIVING

I'm thankful for my Mom, Dad, my sister, and my brother. Thanksgiving is a fun holiday. I like it because it was when the pilgrims met the Indians after a long winter. You have a turkey on Thanksgiving. Yumm! I also lead the prayer. I say things like thank you God for this wonderful food and water. I like Thanksgiving a lot.

Eric Knox

#### THE FIRST THANKSGIVING

When the Pilgrims left England they sailed on a boat called the Mayflower. When it was time to go to bed it was crowded. The children couldn't sleep in nice cozy beds. After two months they finally found land. When they were there there were no houses, so at night they slept on the Mayflower. The next day they made houses. When they were done they started to grow food. After the harvest they decided to have a feast and the Indians joined them. They were thankful for their harvest. This was the first Thanksgiving.

Stephen Bognar

#### I AM THANKFUL

Thanksgiving is the time to think of what you are thankful for. I am thankful for my family. I love Thanksgiving. Some people don't celebrate Thanksgiving. Some do. I have turkey for Thanksgiving. If I have time I play with my cousins. Thanksgiving is a good holiday.

Michael Iacolino

#### I AM THANKFUL

I'm thankful for friends, family, and mostly myself. Thanksgiving is when the Pilgrims and the Indians got together and they had a feast. My family gets together and we have a great time. Thanksgiving is my second favorite holiday. I love Thanksgiving.

Anthony Masotti

#### I AM THANKFUL

I am thankful for my life. I am thankful for my friends. I am thankful for my family. I am thankful for my cousins. I am thankful for pets. I am thankful for wild animals. I am thankful for the Pilgrims, too.

Chante Segarra

**For all the school-related news, you turn our pages each and every week ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!**

## Kid's Korner - continued...

The second-grade students of Mrs. Mary Kay MacDonald at Phelps School recently reflected on why Thanksgiving is special to them:

Thanksgiving is a special time because I can see my family. We go to my cousin's house on Thanksgiving. We eat turkey and stuffing. I like stuffing more than turkey. Three of my cousins will not be there, but all of my other cousins will be there. Happy Thanksgiving!

Alexander C. Orban

Thanksgiving is a special time because you gather around with your family. You eat turkey and squash and potatoes. You can give presents to your family. I get together with my Grammy. I get together with my Grampa.

Brie Bobecki

Thanksgiving is special to me because I can eat turkey and pie and I can play with my friends. I can play with my toys. I can go outside.

Michael Christodoulous

Thanksgiving is a special time because I get to see all of my cousins. My cousins' names are Sarah, Amanda, Jessica, Matt, Zach, Staphanie, Jeremy, Kirsten, T.J., Samantha, Austin, Danny, and Emily. We play all the games we know. Those games are tag, freeze tag, TV tag, color tag, obstacle course, red light/green light, stuck in the mud, limbo, school, and Olympics. My cousins live in Chicopee.

Jimmy Grzelak

Thanksgiving is a special time because I go to New Hampshire. I go to see my cousins. We have turkey, stuffing, peas, corn, potatoes, and pie. My nana and papa come. There's so much food the whole table is full. The food is good. I like the turkey the best. I like Thanksgiving. I'm thankful for my food.

Benjamin Fish

Thanksgiving is a special time because I am thankful that my grandfather didn't die. My grandfather is special because he gives me \$50 for my birthday. My grandfather gives me \$100 in the winter. My grandfather is nice.

Joseph Roy

Thanksgiving is a special time because I go over my grama's and I play basketball with my cousin. His name is Jeremy. My aunt comes to play sometimes. My other cousin comes, too. After that we play football.

Stephen Hillios

Thanksgiving is a special time because I get to see my Uncle Dave and my Aunt Peggy. I like to see them and I have fun with them. I have a big feast. I am thankful for them. I have turkey and mashed potatoes and stuffing. My Uncle Dave is special because he likes me. They live in Pennsylvania.

Zachary Dawson

Thanksgiving is a special time because it gives me time to think about what I'm thankful for. I'm thankful for my family, a home and beds. I'm thankful for food. I'm thankful for water. I'm thankful for juice. I'm thankful for ice cream and clothes.

Courtney Fournier

Thanksgiving is special to me because I am going to have a party and people will come. I am going to play at the party. I am going to eat a turkey.

Igor Adzhigirey

Thanksgiving is a special time because we are thankful for food, homes, medicines, beds, clothes, phones, furniture, cars, fires, money, schools, and friends. Those are special because we need lots of those things. Everybody should be thankful. Even if you don't want to, just do it.

Brittany Struck

Thanksgiving is a special time because I'm thankful for all the things that I have that the pilgrims didn't have. I'm thankful for my refrigerator, my stove, my bathroom, my money, my house, and my toothbrush. I'm thankful for my mom, my dad, my brother, and my pets so they can protect me.

Ashlee Viens

Thanksgiving is a special time because I spend time with my family. We have a big dinner. We have turkey, pie, green beans, mashed potatoes, and carrots. I like our dinner. I am thankful for my clothes, my house, my food, dishes, and my family. I love Thanksgiving.

Nicole Seymour

Thanksgiving is a special time because my family gets together. We have a great dinner. I like turkey. Thanksgiving is fun. I spend time with my mom and dad and my sister. I love Thanksgiving.

Carlos Gomez

Thanksgiving is a special time because you can spend time with your family. I am thankful for houses and nice clothing because back when the pilgrims lived they didn't have any of those things. I like Thanksgiving because I get to eat turkey. I like Thanksgiving a lot!

Chris Drane

**Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!**



**TO GET INTO THE SPIRIT OF THANKSGIVING,** Mrs. Mary Kay MacDonald's second-grade students at Phelps came up with their own holiday reflections. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Thanksgiving is a special time because I have turkey at my gramma's. We have mashed potatoes and corn. I have chocolate milk with dinner. I'm thankful for the pilgrims because they needed food, cars, and refrigerators. The pilgrims needed things that we have now.

Ryan Wheeler

Thanksgiving is a special time because on Thanksgiving I get to see my whole family. We eat hamburgers, hot dogs, salad and turkey. My cousins and I play together. It is a great time!

Jacob Tryba

Thanksgiving is a special time because I have a big dinner. I eat things like turkey, mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie and milk. I love Thanksgiving dinner. There is a lot to eat and drink. I like pumpkin pie best. My dad likes pumpkin pie, too. Mashed potatoes are my next best. (I don't like plain potatoes.) I like to drink milk on Thanksgiving but I don't know why. I love Thanksgiving dinner. The end.

Aida Marie Barnes G.

Thanksgiving is a special time because I get to spend time with my family. I get to eat with and talk to my family. I can play with my cousin and I like my Grandma's pie. It is special because I never see them a lot and my mom does not make pie. That's why it is very, very special to me!

Jennifer Golbach

Thanksgiving is a special time because I spend time with my family. I play with my cousins and swing and jump on the trampoline. We play in the cellar, too. I eat a lot of food. My cousins live close to me. I love Thanksgiving.

Riki Pajer

Thanksgiving is a special time because of my Gramma and Grampa's Thanksgiving dinner. We have a turkey and a lot of other good food. My whole family comes. That day is the only day I get to see some of my family.

Alisha Chechile

Thanksgiving is a special time because I get to see my friends and my family. We all have a special dinner. We even have a little party for that day that we spend together. We just let my best friends and my family come and we all have a good time. The best part of it is that we are with each other. That's what makes Thanksgiving special!

Erin Nichols

Thanksgiving is a special time because I go to my Grandpa's house. My Grandma has a dog. Her name is Lucy. We have lots and lots to eat. Lucy cleans the dishes. I like the potatoes. Grandma gets me train tracks. They live in Sudbury. I go there every Thanksgiving. I am thankful for houses and most of all school!

Trevor Leathem

Thanksgiving is a special time because I am thankful for lots of things like food. Without food we all would die. I am thankful for parents because we wouldn't be alive. I am thankful for gifts because we would be very bored. I am thankful for a job because we would not have any house or food or gifts.

Billy Turner

## Best local news!

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## From AHS's Guidance Department... A Blending Of Actual Happenings

by Judy Cohen  
Agawam High School Guidance Counselor

The following is a blending of actual happenings. Names have been changed to protect those who are involved.

So many times my door is opened and in walks a youngster whose face can almost be lifted off the floor. Let's take Mary as an example.

It is early in the morning. Since my office faces right into the waiting room and my visibility allows me to see youngsters seated there, I immediately spy one gal who is not looking too pleased with life. Knowing that she is one of my clients, I get up from my seat, approach her, and invite her in to talk.

Mary enters my office, shuts the door a little too loudly, sits down, and immediately bursts into tears. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to know this gal is agitated. "What's wrong?" I ask her as I decide to sit down next to her, and not at my desk. I often do this so there will not be the barrier of a desk between us. It's hard enough for a kid to communicate without my adding a physical barrier.

Mary looks up at me through teary eyes, and tells me that she never wants to go home again. Listening patiently, she lets me know that she and her mom are not on the best of terms. Gently, I ask her why. She replies, "I don't know; it's just this way. She doesn't understand me and neither does John." "Who's John?" I ask. "He's (and that word is emphasized with a twinge of venom) my stepfather."

Aha ... now we're getting somewhere. From our conversation, I find out that Mom has gotten married last summer after being divorced for seven years. During the previous seven years, she and Mary had been very close, almost like sisters. They shared things, went places together, and confided in each other. Then, John had to enter the picture and everything changed! "I hate her, Mrs. Cohen!" and with that the sobbing ensues. I ask Mary if I may call her mother. Note that Mary is not blaming John; instead, she is choosing to blame the one she feels has betrayed her — her mother.

Later that morning, Mom enters my office. Seemingly a very caring person, Mrs. Brown takes a seat. Knowing that Mom was coming in, Mary already had returned to my office. When Mom sat down, Mary pushed her seat further away. Neither looked at the other. Both looked at me and I felt as if they were waiting for me to wave a magic wand.

Instead, I welcomed Mom and started to ask her

some questions. She confirmed that Mary and her had been very close. I asked her what it was like now? She related to me that Mary has become very unruly, gets into trouble, and acts surly. Questioning her about when this behavior began, I was told that it just started last summer. "What happened last summer?" I queried. "John and I were married." ... Bingo!!! Now we were getting somewhere.

Through further conversation, it was apparent that Mary felt that Mom didn't care about her anymore. Instead, she saw Mom bestowing all of her attention on John. Looking intently at Mom, I asked, "Do you tell Mary you love her? Do you give her hugs? Do you still do things alone with her sometimes?" Mom pondered these questions and as she did I watched Mary squirm in her seat. Next, I watched Mom's eyes fill with tears.

As she started to cry, so did Mary. We talked some more and both realized that the dynamics of the house had changed, but that didn't mean that the feelings Mom and Mary had for each other had to change, too. Mom and Mary decided that they would pick out one night to spend together (shopping, eating out, etc.). Just the two of them. Both would try to be more open with the other by sharing thoughts, feelings, and displays of endearment.

John, wishing to treat Mary as one of his own, had started to be the disciplinarian. Naturally, Mary took exception to this: "Who does he think he is to tell me how to lead my life?" We talked about it and Mary finally realized that he was just trying to treat her as one of his own. Mary didn't understand and felt John was intruding. Mary's mother decided she would talk to John.

Later, I recalled Mary to my office. I wanted to know what impact the discussion had on her. I shared with her that both she and Mom were doing the best that they could with their feelings. Neither was to blame for the rift. Mom did not notice she had been neglecting Mary. It was just that she was trying so hard to be a good wife, to make John happy.

I explained to Mary how important it is for her to share her feelings with Mom, to let her know what she is thinking and how she perceives things. Mary looked at me and smiled. I knew, then, that the healing would begin; not totally, but a little bit at a time.

The cards were now on the table. They just had to be dealt.

## Sample MCAS Questions Available From Keenan's Office

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan took the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) test, students in the fourth, eighth, and 10th grades took their MCAS tests, and now you have the opportunity to sample the test. Contact Keenan's district office to receive a brochure with three sample questions from the test.

Students who took the test in May of 1998 reported that these were the toughest tests they had ever taken. The content was challenging, the length of time for the test was demanding, and the standards on which the tests were based are not yet fully implemented in every school and district. The subjects of the MCAS tests administered were English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science & Technology.

The results from the MCAS are a powerful tool. MCAS results provide invaluable information for diagnosing strengths and needs of individual students, schools, and districts, as well as a baseline to measure future improvements. The statewide results have been released, and it is clear from these results more work needs to be done.

To receive a copy of the MCAS brochure which contains sample questions, or more information about the MCAS, contact Keenan's district office at (413) 786-4545.

MCAS measures the performance of students, schools, and districts on the academic learning standards contained in the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, fulfilling requirements of the Education Reform Law of 1993.

## Local Students Attain Honor Roll At St. Mary's High

St. Mary's High School in Westfield is pleased to announce the names of those students who made Honors for the first marking period from the Agawam and Feeding Hills area. They are:

**GRADE 11:** Joshua O'Neill (Second Honors);  
**GRADE 10:** Adam Szymanski, Anne-Marie Audette, Sarah Zingarelli (Second Honors);  
**GRADE 9:** Taryn Albano (First Honors); Daniel O'Neill, Brianna Maroni (Second Honors).

All the local news with us ... AAN!!!

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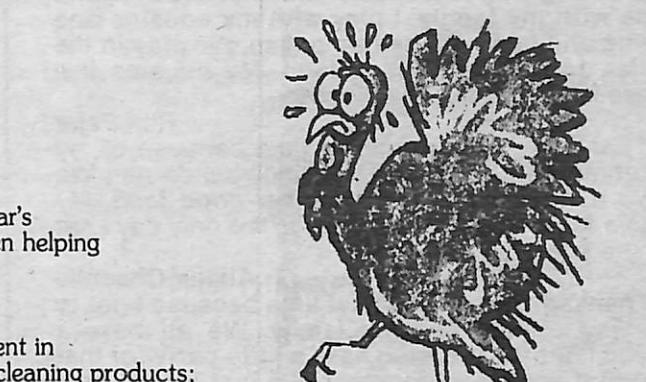
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# Sports

*Murray's Contract Won't Be Renewed...*

## Three Agawam High School Fall Sports Coaches Not Coming Back

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Agawam High School has lost at least three coaches. Varsity football Coach Dean Vecchiarelli announced retirement earlier this week. Varsity boys' soccer Coach Dwight Northrup also retired late last month. And girls' varsity soccer Coach Mary Murray's contract wasn't renewed by the School Department.

For Vecchiarelli, it was a personal decision. He had been the head coach for nine years before calling it quits. Before that, he was an assistant football coach at the high school. His record as the head man of the varsity was 35-52-3. This year, the team went 4-6.

Records weren't the reason he left. The coach has had some family setbacks. His dad died not too long ago. Currently, his mother is battling a disease and is in a nursing home.

"I thought about leaving the profession for a long time. It was a very tough decision. In the end, my family came first. I have two young children, Mike and Angela. If you are going to coach football the right way, it means a lot of long days away from your family during the season. I just wasn't prepared to do that anymore. And I also felt the program could go in another direction."

"Coach Vecchiarelli is a science teacher here at the school, and a very good one. Every coach here has a one-year contract. As far as I was concerned, he had the job for as long as he wanted it," Athletic Director Kathy McSweeney said. "He had a great relationship with our scholar athletes," she added.

"All I and my assistant coaches ever asked of the kids was to give everything they had. No one could or should ask more than that. I think I was a coach that my kids wanted to play for," Vecchiarelli said.

Vecchiarelli is only 37 years-old. He is and will continue to be the coach of the AHS girls' track team. Many times we've seen him with little Mike in tow at various Agawam High athletic events. Will he miss the game of football? "Very much," he answered. "When I take Mike around, I think of the day he might want to play the game. I think that I might like to coach him in some capacity. I don't know if it would be a good idea, but it's something to consider."

Vecchiarelli says he might become a football official somewhere down the road, just to keep his hand in the game.

### Surprised By Northrup's Resignation...

As for Northrup, McSweeney and others were taken by surprise with his resignation.

"I was very surprised when Coach Northrup retired. I hired him and he was doing a great job," McSweeney said.

For his part, Northrup had this to say: "I knew it was time to go when I went to practice or to a game and realized it wasn't fun anymore."

Northrup was at Agawam for six years. During that time, he led the team to the finals of Western Mass. in 1996, where they lost to Cathedral. "We went 11-4-5 and won the Churchill-Moriarty Division. That was the first league title and the deepest an Agawam boys' soccer team got in the tournament since they won it in the 1980's," Northrup noted. His overall record was 45-51-13. His team missed the playoffs this year after being elevated to the Smith Division.

The coach has already left town for Colorado. His mentor, very successful UMass women's soccer Coach Jim Rudy, had this to say: "Dwight was a class person. He participated in my soccer camp for a number of years. He knew the game and was able to work with the kids. One day, I feel he'll get back into the game. He'll be a blue chip coach and a find for whoever hires him." McSweeney had this to say: "I would like to have him back here with us. But he has to do what he thinks is right for him. I wish him all the luck."

Coach Murray's situation was far different. She came to Agawam High four years ago after a brilliant career at Cathedral. Her record there was 223-43-25, with six Western Mass. titles, the State Championship in 1993, and three runners-up in the States. She was named as National High School Girls' Coach of the Year while at Cathedral High School.

She got the girls into two Division I tournaments in her short time at AHS, including this past season.

She is an intense and passionate coach. If you

have ever watched her on the sidelines, you know that she is emotional and passionate on the sidelines.

### Allegations Against Murray...

There are allegations against her that led to her being told she would not be returning as the AHS girls' soccer coach — the use of bad language to some of her players, financial problems in the program where she handled a small amount of money, and parental complaints based on kids not getting enough playing time. The first two are direct violations of School Department policy. She addressed them.

"Yes, I did use some strong language to one of my players, for which I am sorry. It was said in the heat of the moment. That student told her parents and things began to get out of hand."

As for the financial situation, the coach explained it this way: "Lisa Tassone was my assistant coach this year. She was my goal-keeper at Cathedral, and an excellent one, too. She worked here for nothing. We sold some t-shirts and gave the money to her. It was hardly anything, but Lisa worked so hard. I know the money was supposed to be raised by the boosters. I was wrong."

In the summer of 1997, Murray was suspended for three days prior to the start of the season because she handled some money for players who were participating in the summer soccer program.

As for the playing time position, which is the personal responsibility of the coach, Murray stated, "There are simply some kids who are better than others. Parents have to realize that. It had nothing to do with whether I liked the player or not. I liked just about every player who ever stepped onto the field for me. But I'm a coach. I was hired to win soccer games. I always tried to give my not-so-talented players as much time as I could. But limited skills mean that time will be limited."

Murray's leaving brought on a firestorm of protest from some Agawam High soccer parents. The parents addressed the School Committee last month and passionately defended Murray and asked that she not be let go (which seemed to be the way things were heading back then).

"It is a real shame that a few can get a coach of her stature terminated," Philip M. DiStefano said. His daughter, Dianna, a junior, played for Murray. He was one of the parents who defended the coach at last month's School Committee meeting when the whole mess popped up publicly.

Then he added, "We entrust our kids to the coaches. Some of the kids treat the coaches with

no respect at all. There has to be some kind of discipline."

His wife, Louise, agreed. "Kids bond to coaches, or at least they should. When Dianna came out of the hospital after serious shoulder surgery earlier this year, she asked to see two people — Coach Murray and her softball coach (Debbie Lickley). Dianna wanted them, along with her family, to comfort her.

"Dianna is a better softball player than she is a soccer player. She was happy with the time she got on the soccer field. She knew her role and was a complete team player. Why don't some other kids know their role? I was always taught the team came first," Mrs. DiStefano said.

Alma Benton's daughter, Sheri, a junior, also played on the team as the starting sweeper. Mrs. Benton told us, "Sheri is so upset now that her days of playing for Coach Murray are over. I'm just as upset. We went up to the school and met with the principal, the superintendent, and the athletic director, pleading the case for Coach Murray. They listened patiently and were very gracious.

### ... Their Minds Were Already Made Up ...

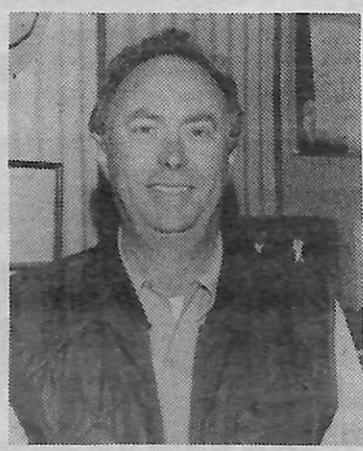
"What we weren't aware of was the fact that we were just wasting our time, because their minds were already made up."

Edward Adamczyk's daughter, Courtney, who is a sophomore on the team, also had a bad feeling about the whole affair. "I defended the coach at that town meeting. I know that 90 percent of the parents in Agawam were on Murray's side."

I have spent countless hours at the playing fields this fall, just like I will spend an equal amount of time watching the winter sports teams and the teams in the spring. I do it for several reasons — one, because I love athletics; two, because I enjoy seeing such hard work from people who don't have to be there; three, because I am lucky enough, in a vicarious way, to be able to go back to high school and experience and remember what it was like to be an athlete through the kids on our various high school teams.

The fourth reason I spend so much time at AHS is because I love to write sports and it's my job. I've been hearing over and over that the School Department is saying that parents did not play a role in the Murray situation, and it came down to the direct violations of School Committee policy.

I made repeated calls to the athletic director, the principal, and the superintendent for comments on this story once I learned of Murray's ultimate fate. No one returned my calls.



Peter Parrotta

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**Profile...**

## Rich Rodriguez Concludes Four-Year Soccer Career At AHS

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

One of the unsung stars of this year's Agawam High boys' soccer team was sweeper Rich Rodriguez, a four-year starter. He took some time out to talk about his days at AHS. He turned 18 on September 9th. He's 5'10" and 160 pounds. He is a computer expert and says computers are a true passion of his. His courses now consist of anything that has to do with computers. Russell Ramah is his top teacher.

He has no plans right now for college. But STCC or Westfield State could be possibilities.

He plays two sports - soccer and track. Soccer is his favorite.

**Western Mass. Division I Finals**

His most memorable sports moment was reaching the Western Mass. Division I finals against Cathedral when he was a sophomore. "We made a total effort to get there," he told us.



**RICH RODRIGUEZ**

His memory of the 1998 season where the Brownies missed the playoffs after being elevated to the top Smith Division was this: "We just never got lucky on defense. That has to happen if you are going to win in soccer, because one point can decide the outcome of a game."

He likes pizza and Spanish rice.

His colors run to blue and black. "They go with everything," he said.

What's his car? "Anything that runs well. Maybe an Eagle Talon."

The New England Patriots are his favorite sports team.

He likes to relax at his friends' houses, or at the Holyoke Mall.

He likes to dress in a good pair of jeans or a good pair of slacks and a sweater. "I like to be comfortable. If I see something that looks like that, I'll buy it."

He likes alternative rock. "Sometimes I'll find something in rap or classical music." His top group is Aerosmith. "Star Trek" is his top show on the tube. "Armageddon" and "Top Gun" are his favorite flicks.

His mom's name is Yvette. Chip is his dad.

He looks up to Gerald Ramos, who is his grandfather on his mother's side.

In the end, when his days are done at AHS, Rich would like to be remembered as an athlete.

Outgoing Coach Dwight Northrup's comments on his sweeper went like this: "He was the best defender in Western Mass. There was only one player I ever saw who was better than Rich; Bryan O'Quinn (last year's All-New England goalie at AHS). Rich started for us when he was a freshman. That was 76 games ago. He missed only one game in his four-year career. He was an iron man from his first game. No one at Agawam ever had that record," Northrup added.

**ADVERTISER NEWS**

## AHS Girls' Soccer Team At Banquet...



ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND, Agawam High School's girls' soccer team held its end-of-the-season banquet at Chez Josef in Agawam. IN TOP PHOTO: Senior players from the 1998 team — Franca Bonavita, Kara Tierney, Melissa Cote, Jessica Dutton, Kornelia Moysis, and Alison Jackobek. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Lisa Tassone (Assistant Coach), Jessica Dutton (Team Captain), and Mary Murray (Head Coach). Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

\* \* \*

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*At The Start Of Round Two...*

## Boston College Leads Tri-Parish Bowling League

Now that round one is but a memory in the minds of competitors and spectators alike, the Tri-Parish Bowling League ushered in round two of the weekly competition on Monday, November 23rd. And, when everything was said and done by the end of that evening, Boston College was the leader of the pack, courtesy of its 4-0 pasting of St. Michael's (which is currently in last place).

Meanwhile, Fordham, Georgetown, and St. Louis are currently in a three-way tie for second with 3-1 apiece. Holy Cross and Notre Dame are deadlocked at 2-2 each, and St. Mary's, Catholic University, and St. Anselm's are trailing with identical records of 1-3.

On November 23rd, the results of the matches went like this: Fordham wiped the alley with St. Mary's, 3-1; St. Louis soundly defeated Catholic U., 3-1; Georgetown had its way with St. Anselm's, 3-1; Holy Cross and Notre Dame split their game, 2-2; and (paraphrasing what I said a couple of paragraphs ago) first-place BC made mincemeat out of current cellar-dweller St. Mike's, 4-0.

"Richy" RICH SNYDER began round two as the men's leading roller by virtue of his 144 single string and 384 triple string. BILL "Black And Blue" GRAY's 139 single and 381 triple were good for second, and other impressive performances were turned in by RON "The Don" MENARD (146, 377), "Jolly" OLLY MULDREW (120, 351), GLEN "Not Sam" ADAMS (119, 346), "Big Bad" JOHN MLINEK (115, 322), and "Jungle" JIM MCCORMICK (117, 320).

"The Mighty" DEB POIRIER (133 single string, 347 triple string) was the ladies' top roller at the start of round two, and she was closely followed by "Go With The" FLO ROCHFORD (142 single, 344 triple).

BARBARA "Barb Wire" HOWARD (144, 323) also had a good night, as did "Testy" BETSY CANNON (118, 321), "Terrible" TERRY CERPOVICZ (110, 315), MAEBETH "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN (134, 313), and "Juicy" LUCY MENARD (107, 306).

## Various Locations For Springfield SLAMM Tickets

Tickets for all the Springfield SLAMM games are available at a variety of locations in Western Massachusetts, including Jonathan's Sports World, Route 9, Hadley; Westfield Sport Goods on Route 20 in Westfield; Lally's Pipe & Book on Elm Street in West Springfield; Fenton's Sports in Springfield and Amherst; and Western Village Ski and Sports at 32 Main Street in Northampton.

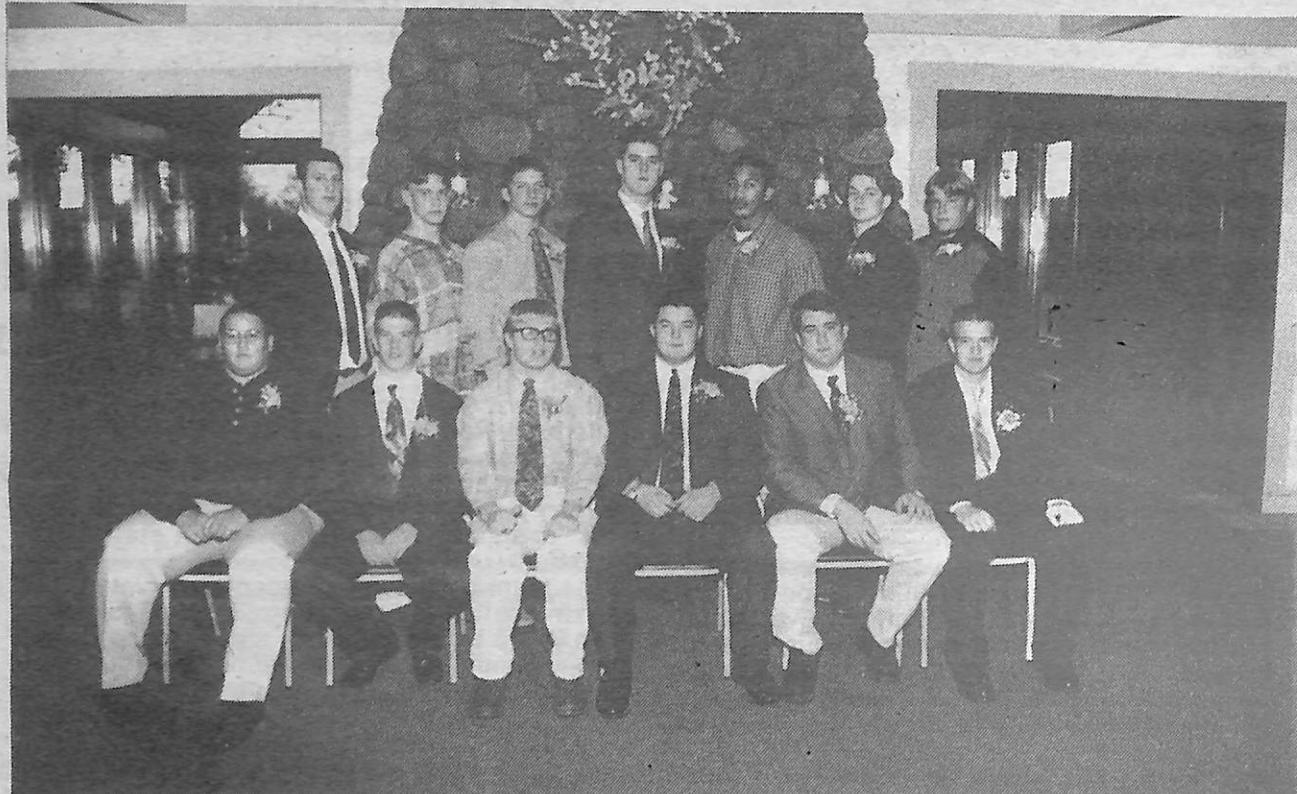
All of the SLAMM's home games will be played at Springfield College's Blake Arena.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for students under 21, seniors, and children. To charge tickets on the Amex, MasterCard, VISA, or Discover card, call 413-746-BALL (2255).

## AHS's Football Team At Annual Banquet...



**THE COACHES AND CAPTAINS AT THIS YEAR'S FOOTBALL BANQUET:** back row - Curtis Boyle (Assistant Coach), Dean Vecchiarelli (Head Coach), John Benjamin (Assistant Coach), and Dan Pryce (Assistant Coach); front row - captains Brian Gallagher, Marc Pedraza, and Bob Fuller. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



**ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29th, the Agawam High football team commemorated the end of the 1998 season with a banquet at Oak Ridge Golf Club. Pictured above are the seniors on this year's team: back row - Brian Gallagher, Mike O'Connor, Matt Albano, Mike Wood, Marc Pedraza, Ryan Drobot, and T.J. Sexton; front row - Asbel Nunez, Ryan Longtin, Bob Fuller, Mike Lovely, Rob Liard, and Ben Colcord. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.**

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## Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis  
Outdoor Writer

### Deer Season?

The almost early September temperatures of this season have not been the best news for deer hunters here in the Northeast. I just can't remember ever going into the woods at this time of year and feeling that my orange vest was just too hot to wear.

I have many chilly memories of tromping through deep snow going across a field to my favorite location. It just did not seem like deer season this year.

Lack of tracking snow may have a negative impact on the overall harvest this year. It will be interesting to see what the statistics show. Another thing that I have noticed is that there does not seem to be as many hunters out this year. A sign of the times might be the fact that there were more doe permits available in some parts of the state than there were applicants!

### GETTING READY

With this warm weather, it may seem premature, but there will be ice fishing this year! Don't wait until the last minute to get your gear in shape!

Even though safe ice is yet a ways away, it's about time to make sure that your ice augers are sharpened and ready for the upcoming ice fishing season. Don't wait until your buddy calls and wants to go the next day. If you send your blades out to get sharpened, you may have to wait for several days or more.

Dust off your tips and replace that old line that may have weakened over time. While on the subject of line, a word of caution is in order for ice fishermen. Those new super braid lines such as Spider Wire and Fireline, are a great aid to sensitivity and "feel." There is one drawback to this type of line for ice fishing, and it has nothing to do with their fish catching suitability.

These new "stronger than steel" lines can cut through flesh faster than a chain saw through butter. This is probably not a problem when icing a 12-inch perch, cut a good bass or northern pike is capable of making a strong run.

If this happens while you are retrieving line hand-over-hand, you could be in store for the line cuts like you have never imagined. Even your gloves and mittens will not offer much protection.

A big northern stripping line could make handling some of these "super braids" like grabbing on to a band saw. Just ask my buddy, 3-Finger Jablonski!

Safe ice is quite a ways off, and when it does finally freeze over, make sure of your ice thickness before venturing out. Just because one or two people are out there jigging does not mean that the ice is safe for the added weight of a couple more people. Better safe than sorry.

Enjoy our New England winter safely when it finally arrives.

### FISH REPORTS

Although most of the party boats have headed to Florida for the winter, some are still plying the North Atlantic. Cod have moved closer in-shore and are providing some action for the cold weather anglers. Look for a party boat with heated cabins and heated rails if you can find one.

## Parks & Rec. Dept. To Sponsor Youth Lacrosse In The Spring

The Agawam Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor a youth lacrosse program again this spring. Coaches Bob Young, Nick St. George, Kevin Quinn, and others will teach the fundamentals of the game, including stick skills, rules of the game, offensive and defensive concepts and strategies, full field concepts, and team play.

Any youth in grades five through eight is invited to participate. The program will be held Monday through Thursday evenings at the Junior High School football field from 5:30-7:00 p.m., beginning mid-April and running through early June. Cost is \$45.

More information will be available at the Registration Night on Wednesday, December 16th from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library Community Room.

Registration will be accepted after that date in the Recreation Office, Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

For more information, call the Recreation Office at 821-0514 or Bob Young at 786-8995.

## The 1998 Girls' U-12 Soccer Champions...



THE GREEN VIPERS finished the 1998 season on September 25th with 10 wins, one tie, and one loss. On December 6th, the girls received GREEN trophies from the Agawam Soccer Association. Congratulations to the Green Vipers for their true achievement — learning how to become the best that you can be. The girls gave 100 percent and they won, they tied, and they lost as a team. Front row: Leah Mutti, Mollie Ober, Alison Stanton, Michele Elsner, Sandy Moller, and Natasha Eagan. Back row: Coach Sally LaValley, Katelyn LaValley, Kristen Laliberte, Jennie Bock, Amber Taylor, Sara Mantha, and Coach Jean Mantha.

## West Side Aquatic Club Competes Against Western Mass. Teams At Smith College

The West Side Aquatic Club traveled to Smith College in Northampton to compete against the best USS swim teams in Western Mass.

The Tsunamis had two weeks off to prepare for the meet. "The kids were really ready to swim fast," assistant coach Dan Handzel stated after the meet.

The team turned in 94 percent best times. This is an indication of good swimming to come for the team. "The best part of this meet is that we had fun swimming. Even if someone did not have a great race, everyone stayed up and cheered for

each other. It was a real team effort," head Coach David Dembowitz stated.

From Agawam, Bethany Reid placed sixth in the 50 breaststroke, missing age group cuts by just .45 of a second. Patti Olson placed first in the 100 freestyle and the 200 IM.

The Tsunamis will be traveling to Clark University, December 13th and 14th, and then coming home to the PVAC pentathlon, December 20th. If you would like to know more about the Tsunamis, check out the web site at [www.westsidetsunamis.com](http://www.westsidetsunamis.com).

*All the hometown news with us ... AAN!!!*

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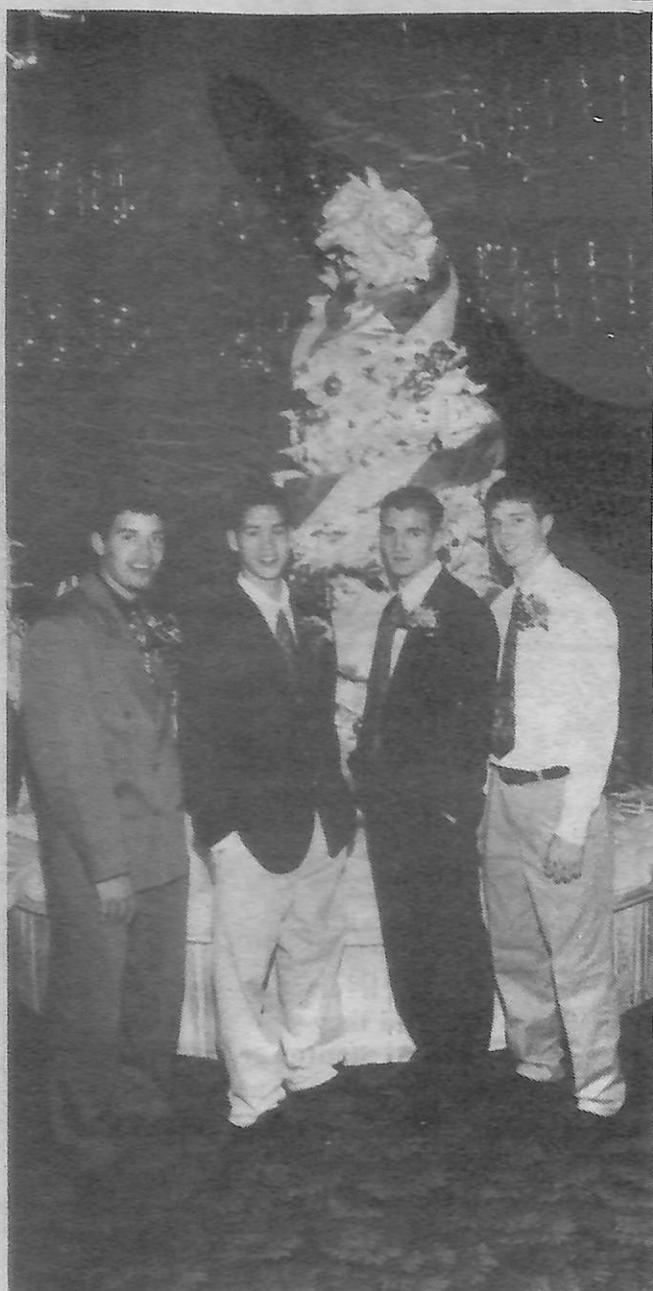
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## Annual Banquet For AHS Boys' Soccer Team...



RICHARD RODRIGUEZ, DAVID FEDERICO, DAVID THOMAS, and JAY FLOOD were senior members on this year's boys' varsity soccer team. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Because of the large number of press releases, church notices, etc., that we receive during this time of the year, we cannot guarantee that articles will appear more than once in our pages.

### Happy Retirement Dad!



Love,  
Gina, David & Margo



AT THE END-OF-THE-SEASON BANQUET for the Agawam High varsity boys' soccer team, which took place at Chez Josef on Sunday, November 22nd: STANDING - David Thomas, Pete Bitzas, David Federico, Brian Machos, Dan Balbony, Umberto Santaniello, and Tim Faust; SEATED - Adam Blair, David Gallerani, Jay Flood, and Richard Rodriguez.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

*For copies of his photos in this edition, please contact AAN photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053.*

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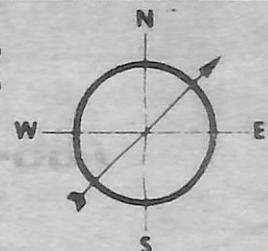
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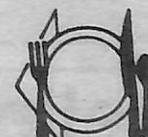
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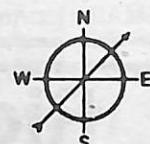
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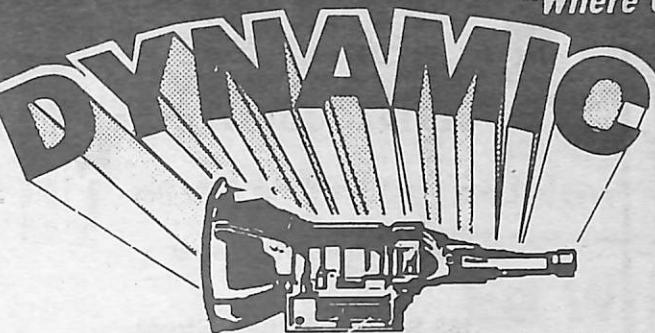
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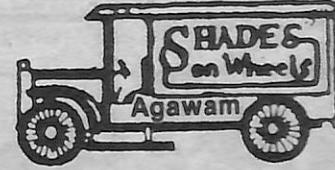
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Residential • Commercial **733-7520**

Your Complete Custom Window  
Treatment Specialist

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WE BRING  
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— Always Free Estimates & Installation —



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**22 Years Specializing  
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Agawam  
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- Add A Second Story To Your Home - Or A Dormer
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# Classifieds

## SERVICES

**CARPENTRY SERVICES:** Additions & remodeling, family rooms, cellars, kitchens & baths, Florida rooms & screen porches, decks & replacement windows, wood siding & sheds. 25 yrs. exp. Fully insured & references. No job too small. Call George Bernier, 786-8452.

**BILL SPEAR FORESTRY SERVICES:** Complete tree removal, trimming. Land cleared. Senior citizen discount. FREE ESTIMATES. Fully insured. Call 786-5081.

**AFFORDABLE CATERING FOR ALL OCCASIONS:** Peter Savenko & Family, 786-6168. 31 Oak Hill Avenue, Agawam.

**DAVID'S WINDOW CLEANING AND JANITORIAL**  
Mother's Little Helper! Floors waxed, rugs shampooed, walls washed. Commercial and residential. Call Paul Ferrarini, (413) 786-4436.

**PAUL'S TREE SERVICE:** Removal, pruning, planting, stump grinding, lot clearing, trimming hedges, cabling and bracing, lightning protection. Neat clean-up (no mess left). Call Paul Cocchi, 733-7520.

**NORTHEAST BUILDERS:** Custom homes & remodeling (since 1975). Fully insured & licensed. Rick Pfeffer, 4 Lenox St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. Reg. No. 116963; Const. Sup. No. 000450. (413) 789-1150.

**CHARTIER'S GENERAL CARPENTRY:** We take the worry out of building. Additions; new construction; renovations; custom decks. Lic. no. 051681; fully insured. Don Chartier, owner. (413) 796-8331.

**VERMETTE AUTO BODY:** Complete collision service. 19 years of customer satisfaction. We work with all insurance companies. 787 Silver Street, Agawam, 786-8226. (MA. REG. NO. 1842.)

**BOB LONGO CONSTRUCTION:** 22 years specializing in additions. Free custom design. Fully insured, free estimates. In Agawam, 789-0758.

**RENT-A-SPOUSE:** Are you a single or married homeowner? Wish you had a clone? Are your Saturdays booked up tight? Are you too tired to enjoy your night? Leave them for your Rent-a-Spouse. Errands and odd jobs are us. Reasonable rates; gift certificates available. Call today — (413) 562-0911.

**PAUL'S REMOVAL & REPAIRS:** Remove lawn debris, appliances, concrete, any type fill, etc. Repair or replace windows/doors, decks, gutter, interior painting. Attics, basements, garages, complete houses. Bobcat service. Free estimates, reasonable rates, insured. Quality service always! Paul Heiden, 788-4813.

**TIM'S CARPENTRY:** Specializing in interior finish work. Also kitchen & bath remodeling. Additions, decks, cedar closets. Installation of hardwood floors. Free estimates; insured. (413) 789-2367.

**CURLEY'S LAWN SERVICE:** Fall cleanouts. Fully insured, free estimates, experienced/uniformed staff. Commercial and residential properties. (413) 786-4622.

**SPRINGFIELD TURN-VEREIN:** Catering to weddings, banquets, parties, and receptions. Two rooms available with seating up to 250 people. 176 Garden Street, Feeding Hills, 786-0924.

**EXCELLENT CARPENTRY:** Small jobs to custom homes. Honest work at today's prices. Free estimates; senior citizen discounts. Stephen Gould, 786-6887.

**3 J REMOVAL:** Attics, basements, garages, and more. Complete removal service. Free est. Lowest rates. 783-6103.

**SHADES ON WHEELS:** Your complete custom window treatment specialist, all at discount prices. Free estimates and installation — satisfaction guaranteed. (413) 786-9411.

**AUTO TRIM BY GEORGE:** Truck seats; auto seats; headliners; boat seats; motorcycle seats; convertible tops; tonneau covers; rugs; construction equipment seats. 10% senior discount. Call George, 786-6073.

**LUIGI'S AUTO BODY:** Celebrating 20 years of service. Specializing in American and foreign vehicles. Licensed & insured. 371 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills. Tel. (413) 786-4975; Fax (413) 789-6404.

**EAGLE EYE CARPENTRY:** General contractor. For a full line of construction (residential & commercial). Very fine work and fair estimates. Paul Therrien, Owner, 163 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills. (413) 789-0524.

**MR. SERVICE:** Your hometown repair man. In-home repairs on all major appliances. Fast, friendly service. Senior citizen discount. Same-day service. 789-1883.

**LOCAL ELECTRICIAN - REPLACE FUSES TO CIRCUIT BREAKERS:** New homes, additions, pools. Small jobs welcome. Security lighting. Free est., fully insured. All calls answered promptly. 781-4376 or 569-2925.

**QUICK START, INC. - SMALL ENGINE REPAIR:** Complete small engine repair service. Offering prompt, courteous service on your 2-cycle or 4-cycle engine. 365 College Highway, Southwick. Phone: (413) 569-6800.

**E.A. WHITE SNOW PLOWING:** Commercial & residential. Senior citizen discount; fully insured. Every 3rd storm 1/2 price (new residents only). Ed White, 789-4728.

**DISC JOCKEY SERVICE:** Providing the very best in entertainment and sound. Music Box Productions — Dj Tom Melbourne (certified professional). (413) 789-6788.

**TAILORING & ALTERATIONS:** Professional — men's and women's. 30 years' experience. Call Francesca's seven days a week. By appointment. Call (413) 789-4358 (leave message).

**RAICHE CONSULTANTS INC.:** Fall cleanup/tune up — clean your PC of dust and dirt buildup inside, and test and tune your hard disk (\$50 per hour, min 1 hour - exp. 10/31/98). Year 2000 audit — let us check your PC and software for year 2000 compliance. Call (413) 789-4110 or fax (413) 789-3745.

**SNOW REMOVAL & SANDING:** (Commercial & Residential). Fully insured and very reliable. Free estimates and senior citizen discounts. Lowest prices around. Call Todd at (413) 786-5591. Pager (413) 785-7417.

**EXPERIENCED TEACHER and child care provider** has 1 full-time opening (over 18 months). Large back yard. Nutritious meals and snacks. Preschool program included. License no. 184792. Call Sue at 789-2530.

**SNOW REMOVAL:** With a snow-blower, not a plow. Call for estimate on your driveway or sidewalk. Chris, 786-1569.

**FALL CLEANING & SNOW PLOWING:** Call 789-1712. Agawam and Feeding Hills. HALL LAWN CARE & SNOW PLOWING. We appreciate your business.

**BAY STATE INSTRUMENT REPAIR:** Specializing in all brass & woodwind instruments. Reasonable rates, 16 yrs. experience. Located in The Corner Shops, Feeding Hills. Call Carl Ippolito, 789-4100.

**SNOW PLOWING:** All-around handyman. Call 568-1679.

**JOE'S MAINTENANCE SERVICE:** Snow plowing, odd jobs, and repairs. Call 568-1679.

**MINOR PLUMBING:** Quality plumbing at reasonable rates. Prompt and efficient service. Bob at 572-9143 (Westfield).

**NEED PAINTING?** Call Chris, owner of Spectrum Painting, for free estimate. Professional results at reasonable prices. Fully insured. 786-1569.

**CNA CLASSES:** Agawam — Jan 11 - Jan 29 days. COUNTRY ESTATES, 1200 Suffield St. \$360 plus books, payment plan avail. Apply at the facility or call: Connie Bryon, RN C 413-253-2580. North Valley Training & Development. DPH approved - Licensed by Dept. of Education.

## WANTED

**DO YOU LOVE CANDLES?** Would you love to earn up to \$30-\$35 per hour? How does being your own boss sound? If you have 1 or 2 nights a week to spare, then this could be the job you've always wanted. No investment required. Call Lisa at 789-7103 for info.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:** Sales/distribution in Springfield/N. Connecticut region. Expanding company with active customer base seeks mature, self-motivated, organized individual for local route sales with high income potential. Van, base salary, and expenses provided, along with expert training and support. Sales experience helpful but not required. Please send resume to: Transport Inc., P.O. Box 893, East Windsor, CT 06088.

**HELP WANTED: REAL ESTATE SALES** positions available at Landmark Realtors, Feeding Hills office. Full- or part-time. We will train. Call Art Ferrara at 566-5566.

**ALTERATIONS AND MONOGRAMS:** Distinct First Impressions, 525-H Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, (413) 821-9516. Men's, women's, children's, bridal, special occasions, proms, etc. Custom orders accepted. This includes special order shoes for all occasions. We will custom-dye shoes and pocketbooks. Open Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri., 9 to 5; Thurs. & Sat., 9 to 3.

## FLEA MARKET

**AGAWAM'S J.R.S. FLEA MARKET:** Largest indoor flea market in New England. Route 75 (behind McDonald's). Saturdays & Sundays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 786-2850.

## FOR SALE

**FORGET ME NOT CONSIGNMENTS.** 1353 Spfld. St., F.H. (Next to F.H. Post Office). 50-75% off selected fall clothing. Large selection of holiday clothing. Open Tues.-Fri., 10-5, Sat., 10-3. 786-3376.

**FOR SALE:** Mahogany Duncan Fife 60" drop leaf table with 2 chairs, \$350; 30" corner hutch, \$350; 42" buffet server, \$350; sold separately or as unit for \$1,000. Call 569-1367.

## FOR RENT

**HOUSE FORE RENT:** In the Feeding Hills area. 2-bedroom ranch with garage and fenced-in yard. No dogs. Call 786-1545 after 2:30.

**HOUSE FOR RENT IN AGAWAM:** Good location. 2 bedroom ranch in pristine condition. No pets. First, last, and security deposit required. \$775/month. Call 786-6937.

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## Bill Spear Forestry Services Fresh Cut Mass. Christmas Trees

Monday thru Friday  
Noon to Dusk or by Appt!!  
Saturdays & Sundays  
9:00 A.M. - Dusk

"Come early on weekends or during the week to avoid the crowds."

335 South West Street  
Feeding Hills

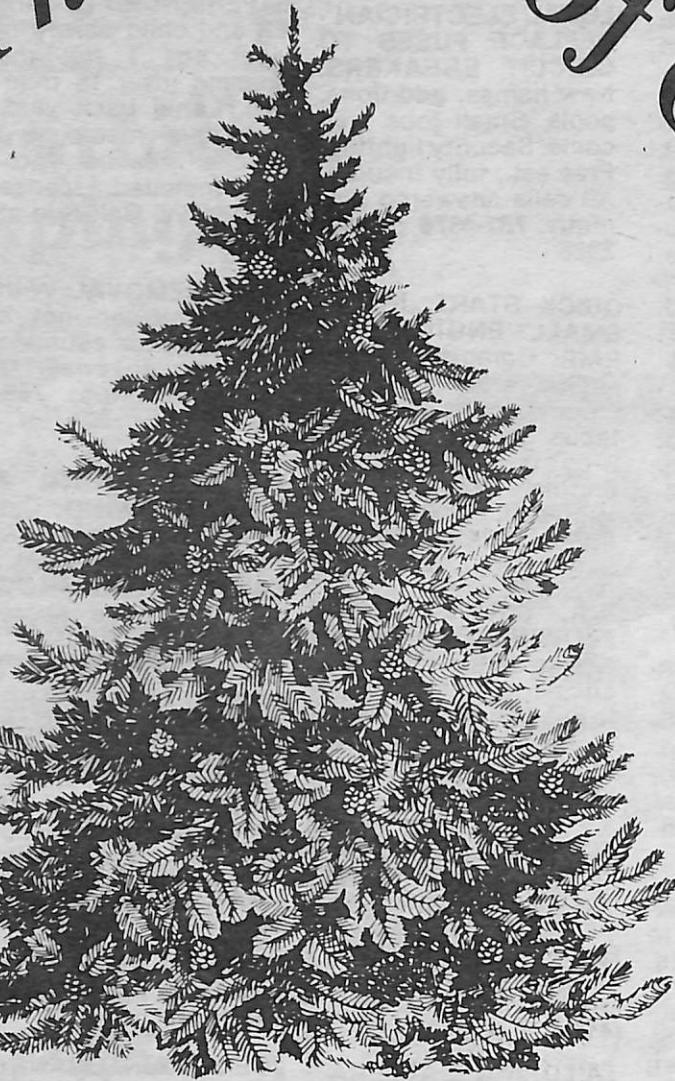
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WE ARE ALSO STILL OFFERING  
24-HOUR, YEAR-ROUND SERVICE  
ON ALL PHASES OF TREE WORK.



*Fresh Cut And  
Delivered To Us!*

*Believe In The Magic Of Christmas*



**Come See  
Our Christmas  
Theme Room  
Great For The Kids**

**12"Live Holiday  
Wreath & Bow \$8.99**

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**Fresh Premium  
Cut Christmas  
Trees**

**5' - 7' Balsam**

**\$14.99**

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Limit one per family. Expires 12/24/98



**REGISTER TO WIN!! A HOLIDAY SHOPPING SPREE**

**1ST PRIZE**

**(1) \$200 Gift Certificate** NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**2ND PRIZE**

**(10) \$50 Gift Certificates** ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

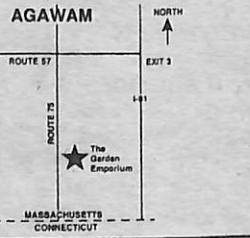
**3RD PRIZE**

**(50) \$10 Gift Certificates** CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Limit One Entry Per Family • Please Register  
In Person • No Purchase Necessary

**Directions To The Garden Emporium**

In Massachusetts, take I-91 south. From Connecticut, take I-91 north. Go over the Mass. border to Exit 3 (Route 5). Stay on Route 57 West (it will say Agawam). Continue until the Route 75 Exit (Suffield Street). At the end of the ramp make a left and continue past two traffic lights. After the second light the store will be one mile on the left hand side. If you have a problem, the store number is 413-789-0122.



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Nursery • Gift Shoppe • Florist

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Hours: Mon. thru Sat 9 to 8, Sunday 9 to 9, Open Everyday!